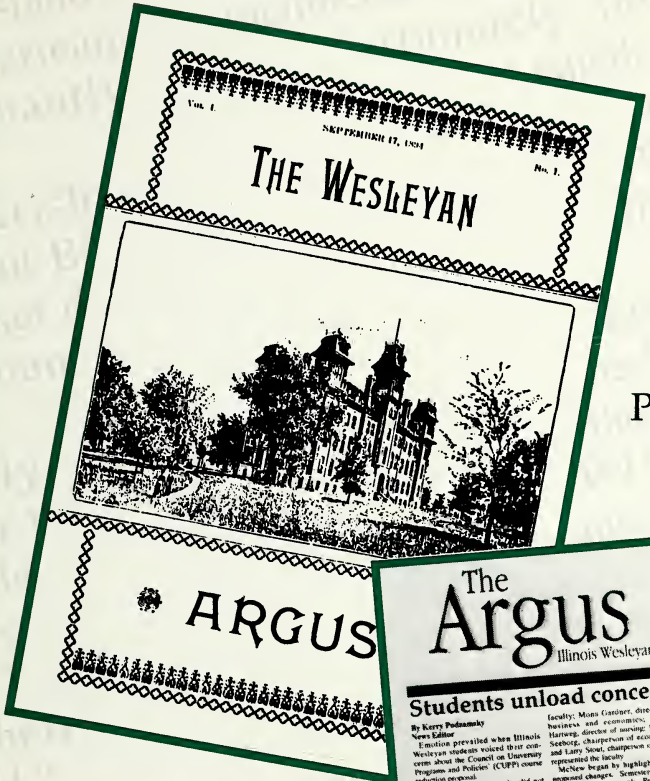
THROUGH THE EYES OF

The Argus



Jennifer Barrell &
Christopher Fusco

Foreword by
Professor James Plath

The Argus
Illinois Wesleyan University

Students unload concerns over May term proposal

By Kerry Podnansky
News Editor

Emotion prevailed when Illinois Wesleyan students voiced their concerns about the Council on University Programs and Policies (CUPP) course reduction proposal.

President Minor Myers, Jr., did not attend the meeting on Nov. 14 in the Main Lounge, but he later hailed the plan as a "strong move forward and one shaped by student input on the planning committee."

However, most of the 60 to 70 students who attended the debate, which was sponsored by Student Senate, disagreed with Myers.

Janet McNew, provost and dean of faculty; Mona Gardner, director of business and economics; Donna Hartweg, director of nursing; Michael Seeborg, chairperson of economics; and Larry Stout, chairperson of CUPP represented the faculty.

McNew began by highlighting the proposed changes. Semesters will be lengthened by one week. Professors' work loads will be reduced from seven courses a year to six. Short term would be moved from January to May and would be optional.

The faculty will vote on the proposal at the Dec. 6 faculty meeting.

Short Term

Students expressed fears that those on financial aid will not be able to take courses during May term as start-ups for new courses usually do not begin until the following semester.

Scott argued that students needing extra money would opt out of a January term for the same reason.

The committee stood firm on the idea of an optional short term as opposed to a mandatory one.

"With a mandatory short term, what often happens is that classes that don't belong on a short term get jammed in," McNew said.

One student then argued that if this is the case, "the faculty has failed to make classes that will fit [the] short term [format]."

Students also worried that only internships and travel courses will be allowed in the new May term.

The committee assured the crowd that courses offered in a would still be available in the proposed May term.

Scott pointed out that moving short term to May will greatly benefit sequential semester courses because of the shorter break between semesters.

Course Reduction

Graduation requirements will be reduced from 38 course units to 34, cutting general education requirements from 15.5 to 12.

Students with double majors feared that these moves will make it impossible

see MAY TERM p. 5

In-depth study of the May term proposal on p. 5

Feminist discussion stresses equal dignity and rights for women

By David Yerkes
Staff Writer

More than 125 people joined four female IWU professors in the Davidson Room on Tuesday, Nov. 9 to discuss their ideas on and experiences with feminism.

"The purpose of the program was to discuss the many faces of feminism and to defuse some of the negative stereotypes," co-sponsor Michele Herman said.

Herman and Leann Swain, both resident assistants in Pfeiffer Hall, organized the event.

Swain helped organize the talk, she said, because "I really do not know what feminism consists of. I'm here to find out what it really is."

Some of the signs promoting the event were torn down, Herman said, even though they used humor to defuse apprehensions students might have about such a discussion. One sign read, "Feminism the other I word."

How did the attendees define feminism? The four professors—Georgeanne Rundblad, April Schultz, Ann Baker and Alison Sainsbury—each related anecdotes and observations about their personal experiences in trying to be self-determined women.

Rundblad, for example, talked about questioning students on her "Sex and Gender" class as to whether or not they considered themselves feminists (only five said that they do).

Sainsbury told how she and her husband (fellow English professor Wes Chapman) divide household tasks equally.

What the talk boiled down to was that feminism involves striving for dignity and rights for women comparable to those of men.

For Herman, the most important observation to come out of the discussion was that women have the right not to have to choose between "public and private" spheres.

This means that women—or

see FEMINISM p. 10

Chad Palmer/The Argus
Georgeanne Rundblad and April Schultz enjoy a humorous moment at the discussion on feminism on Tuesday, Nov. 9. An estimated 125 people attended the event, which lasted two and a half hours.

Westerberg breaks our dyslexic hearts

By John Bellitski
Staff Writer

First, for a week, he was WJNS's mystery performer. Then, 150 Illinois Wesleyan students bought tickets to see his show.

Now all we can say is that he would have played the Main Lounge last Wednesday.

Paul Westerberg, formerly the lead singer of the Minneapolis band Replacements, was injured during one of his concerts two weeks ago.

This was Westerberg's first solo tour featuring his album "Eventually."

Several of his dates were canceled for this leg of the tour, said Anessa Shalleck,

WJNS's marketing director. Westerberg's promoter told Shalleck he was thinking about rescheduling for February or March, but she was doubtful that Westerberg would be performing here in the spring.

We have a limited number of open dates in the Main Lounge, Shalleck said. Right

see WESTERBERG Rv p. 10

100 Years of Journalism at Illinois Wesleyan University

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Through the Eyes of *The Argus*

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100 Years of Journalism at Illinois Wesleyan University

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Jennifer Barrell • Christopher Fusco

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Information in this book comes largely from the original pages of *The Argus*, the student newspaper of Illinois Wesleyan University, and any sins of omission/commission or factual errors are attributable to the imperfect world of college journalism. Wherever possible, the authors have sought to corroborate information with university and community records.

Acknowledgments

Just as it is impossible to record all the people, places and events that *The Argus* included in its first century of reporting Illinois Wesleyan University news, it is equally impossible to thank all those who have assisted us.

James Plath sacrificed time with family, friends and his own literary journal, *Clockwatch Review*, to monitor the entire writing, re-writing, proofing and indexing process. Plath helped shape the focus of this book and shaped our development as writers, interviewers and researchers. Robert Aaron was of invaluable assistance with re-write and proofing "down the stretch," and Carl Teichman enabled us to concentrate on writing rather than financing. Gary Schwartz laid-out the entire book and designed the front cover, while putting up with our elusive copy deadlines. Christopher Baron ('95) was the student source of constructive criticism during the first "proof job," and Marc Featherly reproduced more than 50 percent of the photographs in this book from old, yellow, dilapidated volumes of the newspaper.

We also wish to thank "Hand-out" Harvey Beutner, for sharing so much information with us; Bernie and Kurt Gummerman, for taking time-out from a rough summer to give us a hand; "Coach" Jack Horenberger ('36) and Stew Salowitz ('76) for their help with the sports chapter; Sue Stroyan and the Sheean Library staff for research assistance and letting us live in the archives; Greg Koos and the McLean County Historical Society, for "free Tuesdays" and some valuable facts; Arun Khosla, Elaine Graybill and Troy Clark ('95) for research assistance; Dave Brown ('95), Betsy Phillips ('96), Maisa Taha ('97) and Kerry Podzamsky ('96) for indexing and proofing assistance; Don Raycraft for information on Fred Young; Ross Minion ('94) for photography and computer assistance; Judy Archer for assisting in production; *The Pantagraph*, for letting us rummage through their files; the Illinois Wesleyan University Development office for helping us contact alumni.

Last, but not least, we wish to thank IWU President Minor Myers, jr., not only for embracing this unconventional approach to a university history, but also for upholding Illinois Wesleyan's free and independent press tradition.

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Foreword

"The eyes of Argus are upon me,
and no slip will pass unnoticed."
George Washington

In Greek mythology, Argus Panoptes was an all-seeing giant with one hundred eyes covering his body. Who better to have for a watchman than one who could sleep with several eyes open? And, what better name to have for a newspaper?

Twenty-one U.S. newspapers currently fly that "flag," as do three college papers (including the *Wesleyan Argus* at Wesleyan University and *The News Argus* at Winston-Salem State University). But Illinois Wesleyan can boast of having the longest uninterrupted college newspaper by that name. It's also possible that the Illinois Wesleyan newspaper was named for the short-lived Bloomington *Argus*, a city paper that began in June 1858 and ceased publication the following September.

Unlike that early paper or the mythological watchman whose life was cut short when Hermes lulled all of his eyes to sleep, Illinois Wesleyan's *Argus* has been watching over this small midwestern campus for 100 consecutive years—a feat that must seem truly titanic to the staffs who thought it nothing less than a miracle to put *one* issue to bed.

The idea for the book came, appropriately, during the Illinois College Press Association's annual convention. As the journalism instructor and newspaper adviser, every year I drive to Chicago with members of the staff for two days of seminars and an awards luncheon. Each crew looks forward to the convention because it gives them a chance to talk with fellow journalists about the bittersweet business of college newspapers—where amateurs are expected to perform like professionals. In packed hotel rooms they stay up way past my bedtime to swap stories of campus abuse heaped upon them: coverage complaints, tight-lipped administrators, nit-picky advisers, cranky printers, impossible deadlines, equipment failure, bad photos, long hours, low (or no) pay, staff feuds, funding problems, failing grades and worse-off love-lives. But somewhere deep inside, they love it.

After the first round of seminars, we gathered at Harry Caray's Restaurant—a Friday night tradition—to toast each other for perseverance and a year's worth of work well done, when the topic turned to the upcoming centennial. Ideas started flying, and thoughts of a special issue soon grew to mythic proportions. Why not write a *book* chronicling 100 years of journalism at Illinois Wesleyan?

Students worked up a proposal and presented it to President Minor Myers,

jr., a former political science professor who became immediately excited about the prospect of an alternative history of the university, told from the students' perspective. Whether it has been done before by any other school is hard to say, but it seems a revolutionary concept. For as anyone who reads through this book will surmise, a history like this could never have been written ten years ago. But since I came to Illinois Wesleyan in 1988, the administration has always perceived the newspaper as a vital campus organ, one which, for all its faults and occasional inaccuracies, still serves as a common denominator, a focal point for students, faculty, administrators and campus visitors. In short, they've always felt that *The Argus* serves the campus best as a newspaper, not a newsletter.

Through the Eyes of The Argus: 100 Years of Journalism at Illinois Wesleyan University thus becomes the latest volume in an informal series of university histories, joining William H. Wilder's *An Historical Sketch of the Illinois Wesleyan University* (1895), Elmo Scott Watson's *The Illinois Wesleyan Story: 1850-1950* (1950), George Vinyard's *Illinois Wesleyan University: Growth, Turning Points and New Directions Since the Second World War* (1975), Lloyd M. Bertholf's *A Personal Memoir of the Bertholf Years at Illinois Wesleyan University, 1958-68* (1984) and Robert S. Eckley's *Pictures At An Exhibition: Illinois Wesleyan University, 1968-1986* (1992). Three of those were written or edited by university presidents, one by an alumnus for the 125th anniversary of Illinois Wesleyan and one by a journalism professor primarily hired to write the history.

This volume constitutes the first history written by students still enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan. It's the story of a campus told not only through the eyes of *The Argus*, but through the eyes of students in the 1990s. It's possible (even likely) that a book written for *The Argus* sesquicentennial would tell an entirely different history of the campus, just as it would reveal much about what students in the 2040s found interesting in century-high stacks of university newspapers.

The amount of material in so many newspapers is overwhelming—so much so, that Chris Fusco and Jennifer Barrell once joked about subtitling the book, "Trapped in the Archives." It's been my pleasure (and pain) to work with them on this project, and not only write the foreword, but give them a not-so-gentle *push* forward whenever they needed it. But there are more university histories still waiting for future researchers to unearth in the archives, and an uninterrupted newspaper publication streak to maintain. So on behalf of the authors and this year's *Argus* staff, I dedicate this book to all student journalists at Illinois Wesleyan University, past and future. You're all a little crazy.

James Plath
Professor of English
January 7, 1994

CHAPTER 1

Before the Eyes of *The Argus*

The Argus was by no means the first student publication to serve the Illinois Wesleyan University campus. Early precursors included newspapers and journals published by individuals, literary societies and Greek organizations—many of them in competition. They included the *Alumni Journal* (1870-77), *The Ventilator* underground newspaper (June 1872), *The Students' Journal* (1877-1885), *The College Herald* (1881-1882), *The Wesleyan Bee* (1882-87), *The Elite Journal* (1887-92), *The Oracle* (1887-1888), *The Avenger* underground newspaper (1888), *The Athenian* (1890) and *The Wesleyan Echo* (1890-94). The 1905 *Wesleyana* yearbook also listed two additional papers, *The Journal* (1885-86) and *The News and the Bee* (1886), though no copies exist in university archives. Most of the publications began with a literary section—poems, short stories and essays—followed by opinion. Then came the "locals" section, which included news notes about individual students and departments. An "exchange" section often appeared in which editors reported highlights (or lowlights) of other college newspapers—even to the point of critiquing them, as when *The Students' Journal* noted that "The *Collegian*, from Cornell, shows ability in selection and arrangement of matter, but the finish is not quite so good" (January 1878).

Illinois Wesleyan's newspapers began with the *Alumni Journal*, published monthly by Professors Harvey C. DeMotte and B.S. Potter from June 1870 to July 1877. The 5 1/2x8 1/2-inch *Journal* averaged 23 two-column pages and largely featured essays on science and philosophy. Included in the *Alumni Journal* were articles on former IWU geology professor John Wesley Powell's exploration of the Colorado River, the "Fructification of Plants," "Christless Systems of Religion" and an essay on "Reading and Writers" which claimed that "Reading without purpose is sauntering, not exercise" (May 1872). With such mentally challenging stories, the *Alumni Journal* must have been a real workout for subscribers.

Likewise, the staid Wesleyan community must have been shocked when the first underground newspaper, *The Ventilator*, appeared for a single issue in June 1872, vowing to publish "whenever the mental and moral atmosphere of Bloomington becomes noisome, and demands purification." The single broadsheet not only threatened "to collect news and unearth abuses," but also offered to pay students for information. The newspaper had the audacity to pan a psy-

Hedding Hall, Illinois Wesleyan's "Old Main," was located in front of where Sheean Library stands in 1994. It was a popular subject for post cards and early university publications.

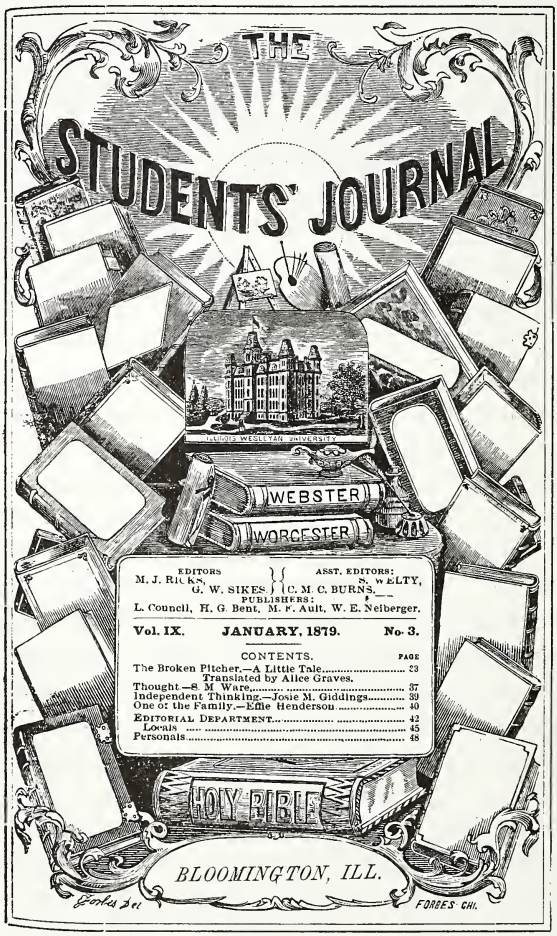
chology textbook by university President Oliver S. Munsell, calling it "a regular crusher." Editors also sarcastically advised students who "are not related to someone of the faculty or some minister of high standing in the Methodist Church" to "announce your determination to become a keeper of the flock. This has always been a high recommendation for faculty favor." Editors went even further in attacking what they called Wesleyan favoritism, singling out Professor DeMotte (co-publisher of the *Alumni Journal*) as one who, "like all other weak, mean men . . . can readily be flattered; and being an unscrupulous intriguer, a little soft soap well applied always brings a handsome return."

In November 1877, publishers of the *Alumni Journal* turned the paper over to students, explaining that rising costs and a naturally evolving focus on current students forced the change. While *The Students' Journal of the Illinois Wesleyan University* numbered its first issue Volume VIII to acknowledge its history, student control brought a change in attitude. *The Students' Journal* promised to maintain "the high standard of the Alumni Journal in literary merit," but its editors also announced their intent to "make it more of a college paper, and give it more of a college air, by devoting more space to such news and items as will interest those desiring such a paper."

Each issue included an editorial dealing with campus behavior, one of them urging that "all students who have the welfare of the university at heart, will assist the faculty in its endeavors to have better order in the halls and chapel." Editors suggested that professors could help alleviate the problem if each would "dismiss his class promptly at the ringing of the bell" (February 1879). Short articles reported more serious campus concerns—like heat:

> During the holidays, the old stoves were taken from Prof. DeMotte's and Prof. Crow's rooms, and the ladies' dressing room, and large furnaces substituted. These furnaces were connected to the chapel, and that room is heated by them also. It is an improvement on the old way. (February 1879)

The Journal's expanded campus coverage included trivia ("The senior class numbers seventeen," May 1878); faculty and student news ("A large party of students, composed principally of seniors and juniors, recently surprised Professor Brown and family," November 1877); alumni news ("Cupid's darts are still showered down upon the ranks of the knights of celibacy. Two more of our alumni have become benedicts," April 1878); unsubstantiated reports from eastern universities ("Yale professors are said to be the wealthiest of their class"; "Dr. Cook says that Harvard University has never produced a man with a warm heart for the people"; "Union College claims to have educated more members of congress than any other college in the country. If they are there now, it does not say much for Union," June 1879); jokes ("Why is the Junior class like the Roman Republic? It is becoming effeminate," May 1879); and gossip ("Miss Wilson has lost


THE STUDENTS' JOURNAL

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

WEBSTER

WORCESTER

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HOLY BIBLE

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

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The Students' Journal *(1877-85)*

her Hart, but what young lady has not been thus afflicted," May, 1880). For such information, students paid $1 for "one year, in advance," or bought single copies for 15 cents.

Editors of *The Students' Journal* apparently thought well of the paper—the longest running of all *The Argus* precursors—for they reported that "Several of the boys seem desirous of journalistic honors, as the city papers each have a Wesleyan reporter. Go in boys, you may some day become proficient enough to aspire to a place on the JOURNAL staff" (March 1879).

For the most part, however, essays far outweighed information. One issue featured the address of the "President of the Law Class on Class Day," an alumni "oration," essays on good character, "The Philosophy of Life" and the "Importance of Classical Learning in the Professions" (July 1878). An inside front-cover advertisement for the university listed the entire faculty—all twelve of them—as well as the six-member staff from the "Law Department," founded on April 6, 1874.

On September 20, 1881, the eight-page, semi-monthly *College Herald* appeared, "To promote the best interests of its readers, and perpetuate fraternity among all who are and have been students of Wesleyan University." And promote the *Herald* did. Every front page was a virtual IWU advertisement, with a drawing of Old Main (Hedding Hall), a list of colleges (liberal arts, law, music and commerce) and rosters of the faculty and the Board of Trustees. The newspaper was not afraid to use school spirit to take an occasional potshot at its competitor, *The Students' Journal*, whose editorials, the *Herald* claimed, "for length and monotony would far surpass the five hour sermons of early Methodism" (February 3, 1882).

By printing letters to the editor, the *Herald* proved to be more student-focused than *The Students' Journal*, but no more exciting. Letters mostly dealt

College Herald.

AIM:—To promote the best interests of its readers, and perpetuate fraternity among all who are and have been students of Wesleyan University.

NO. 11. Locker Bros. BLOOMINGTON, ILL., MARCH 13, 1882. Published Semi-Monthly, $1.00 per annum

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY,

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COLLEGE —OF— LAW.

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College Herald *(1881-82)*

with trivial matters—everything from school spirit to chapel seating—though one writer complained,

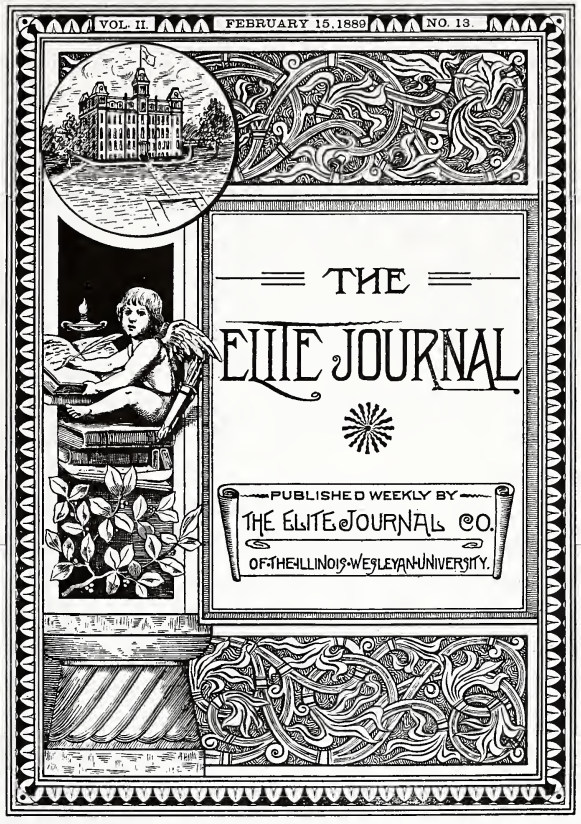
> Are we ever to have any more lectures at the Wesleyan? A few years ago the Wesleyan professors gave us Sunday afternoon lectures on various topics, and the societies had their regular lecture course, which brought such men as Beecher, Tilton, Tamage, Cook, and others of national repute. Today we have nothing of the kind. (February 3, 1882)

The *Herald* also heralded the birth of campus news-commentary (some of it contradictory), including items that went beyond routine announcements: "University to be heated by furnace next year. Amen!" (February 3, 1882) or "Oratorical meetings of late have been spicy—very spicy. An amendment to the constitution extending the time of orations to 15 1/2 minutes failed of adoption, but a rule to that effect carried" (May 31, 1882). Like most other pre-*Argus* publications, the *Herald* cost $1 "per annum" and operated solely on subscriptions and advertising revenue.

Despite the fact that women had been admitted to the university in 1870, *The Wesleyan Bee* was started by 10 men—five Phi Gamma Deltas and five Phi Delta Thetas—in October 1882, though the first issue quickly pointed out that "it is not under the control of those fraternities or any society at all." Yet, its appearance set the stage for a decade of bitter rivalry between Greek-sponsored newspapers and those sponsored by independent students and literary societies. Despite the addition of a section devoted to Greek announcements, the *Bee* was nothing to buzz about. Only two articles went beyond the usual dry academic matter and campus gossip: one which attacked the university for "sluggish inactivity" in providing the fewest oratorical contests and public exhibitions of all known colleges (January 1884), and another which touted the IWU curriculum as being "now in excess of any college in the state, Evanston not excepted. Viva la Wesleyan!" (February 12, 1886). If there was a buzz, it was the faculty's reaction to a Greek-society newspaper.

When the *Bee* stopped publishing in 1887, an irritated IWU faculty passed a resolution that no paper be published unless all factions of the university—Greeks, independents and the literary societies—be represented. In defiance, *The Elite Journal* emerged during fall 1887, later explaining that "to come to a satisfactory adjustment of all factions seemed impossible, and efforts to organize a Harmonious staff were ineffectual" (January 24, 1890). Although the Elites, a non-secretive organization of independent students, were threatened with suspension for publishing their first *Journal*, no action was taken.

Clearly, "the Wesleyan" did not oppose *The Elite Journal*, since the university bought advertising space to promote its music department, literary departments and societies and law department, taught by "the best talent of the Bloomington bar." Sounding more parental than presidential in the ad, Reverend William H. Wilder promised "watchful oversight of the welfare of all students" and "term reports sent to all parents."



The Elite Journal *(1887-92)*

The Elite Journal featured ornate covers with drawings of Hedding Hall and a winged muse sitting atop a stack of books. Although the *Journal* included the usual smattering of poems, essays and orations on various aspects of morality, it also read like the campus health report, printing 20 or 30 "news" briefs which informed students that "Mr. McGinty is down with the 'grip'" (January 24, 1890), "Miss Young is compelled to give up her voice culture for an indefinite period on account of the serious trouble she is having with her throat" (March 1, 1890) or that "C.S. Lyles returned home Monday to see his 'mamma' and also to look after a severe cold" (January 17, 1890).

In addition, "Y.M. and Y.W.C.A." columns tried to keep students on the straight and narrow, as this January 24, 1890 announcement illustrates: "Girls, remember our meeting is Friday, at 4 p.m. If you want to live a better life, come, and we will tell you how we found Jesus, and how you may find him" (January 24, 1890).

Elsewhere, articles on campus literary societies reported the results of debates, including one of the most interesting of the term. The question, "*Resolved*, That the best interests of our Nation demand the exportation of the Negro." Affirmed by Messrs. Watson and Bradford; denied by Messrs. Hopkins and Scrogin. Decision of judges, for negative" (February 7, 1890).

Seeing that *The Elite Journal w*as able to publish in spite of the faculty edict, the Greek Letter Fraternities quickly followed with their own newspaper, *The Oracle*, published from 1887-88. Some of their editorials had a classical sound to them, such as one which warned seniors, "Sons of men, beware! Tremble, ye seekers after popular amusement! Ye occupants of high social position, quake and totter on your thrones, for your time is short. On the Ides of June there will

be launched a mighty force which shall make thee fugitives and vagabonds in the earth" (November 19, 1888).

The Oracle, similar in format to the other newspapers of the day, was among the smallest—only 14 pages. In addition to notes on Greek life and the law school, the newspaper also included a "sporting" section, which told readers that "The bicycle club is experiencing some difficulty with their machines" and suggested that "What we need is a gymnasium. Will some ardent admirer of the University contribute the necessary funds? A little louder, please" (November 5, 1888).

On February 15, 1888, another paper appeared: *The Avenger,* "A Semi-Monthly Paper Published by the Barbarians of the Illinois Wesleyan University in the interest of Right, Honesty, and Justice." Although the newspaper was apparently published that fall as well, only the first issue remains in university archives—perhaps because copies were so offensive to the campus that they were destroyed. The underground newspaper's editors had no qualms about attacking both Greeks and Elites:

> The Elites have their *Journal*, The Greeks their *Oracle*. These are party papers, published for sectional aggrandizement. The "Barbs" have an interest in neither, hence the necessity for a third paper. And right here let us give fair warning that we are not respectful of persons, and whether faculty or student, Greek or Elite, unless you keep within the proper bounds, you are destined to fall under the ban of our avenging quill. (February 15, 1888)

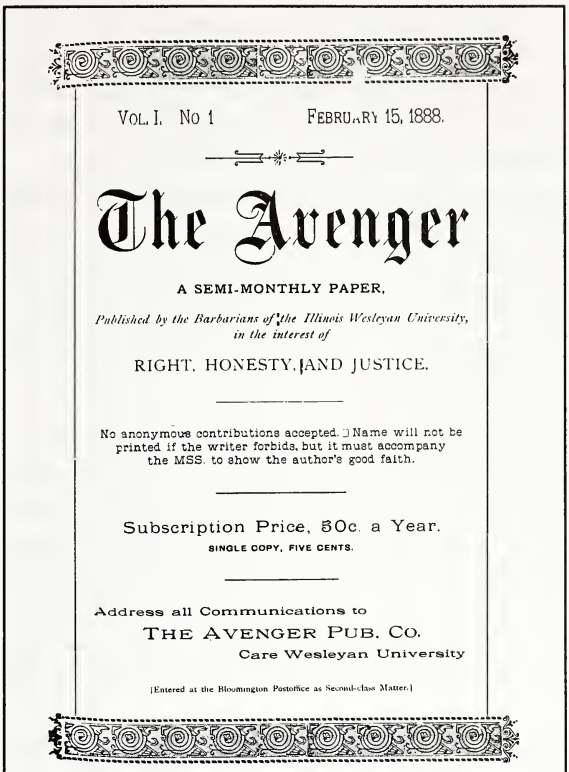
Members of the *Avenger* wasted no time using their quill to put down both publications as well as the university. The editors complained that there was only one "Barb"—unaffiliated with Greek or literary societies—among the faculty, and questioned, "Is it proper for professors, who consider the better interests of our school, to show their allegiance to fraternities?" Their remedy: "Put a head on the faculty, take one off the Greeks, annihilate the Elites, and we will have smooth sailing."

A bitter paper, *The Avenger* attacked the "ethics of secrecy" practiced by some literary organizations and all fraternities. The "Barbarians" threw racist barbs as well, complaining that the bookstore greeted students with "the smile of a Jew" and printing this anti-black and anti-Greek poem:

> Ten little Greekies, meeting down town,
> Cute little fellows, wearing fine gown.
> One little Greekie took too much wine,
> Put him in the cooler, then there were nine.
> Nine little Greekies got into nigger heaven,
> Two got caught, then there were seven. . . . (February 15, 1888)

Though the newspaper carried no "masthead" listing the names of its editors, notes written on a surviving copy by junior Andrew Horner Harnley tell an interesting story:

> This paper was scattered . . . through the halls this morning by a news boy from the city. Its publishers remain a mystery, but it is needless to



VOL. I. No 1 FEBRUARY 15, 1888.

The Avenger

A SEMI-MONTHLY PAPER,

Published by the Barbarians of the Illinois Wesleyan University, in the interest of

RIGHT, HONESTY, AND JUSTICE.

No anonymous contributions accepted. Name will not be printed if the writer forbids, but it must accompany the MSS. to show the author's good faith.

Subscription Price, 50c. a Year.
SINGLE COPY, FIVE CENTS.

Address all Communications to
THE AVENGER PUB. CO.
Care Wesleyan University

[Entered at the Bloomington Postoffice as Second-class Matter.]

The Avenger (1888), *one of two underground newspapers during the pre-Argus period.*

say it is the great topic of conversation here. The whole business is a mysterious affair and about half the students have been accused of publishing it. Some have even blamed me for it. Read it and tell me if you think the Greeks are mad?

If the Greeks weren't, the faculty was. Though the editorship of *The Avenger* remains a mystery, the minutes from the faculty meeting on March 2, 1888 report that a "Motion was made that the President write to the fathers of Messrs. [Fred C.] Earl and [Clyde] Pitts, and ask them to take the boys out of school immediately." Earl and Pitts were both enrolled in the two-year preparatory school at Wesleyan, a program offered in addition to the regular four-year program. Although neither student returned the next fall, others apparently revived *The Avenger*, for in November 1888, *The Oracle* disdainfully asked,

> Will the Barb paper and its following in the interest of pure air and respectability in general appearance, kindly rinse their mouths, take a good half hour shower bath, and don an entire change of raiment at least once a term, and place a confiding public under personal o b l i g a t i o n? Come again.

The Oracle ceased publication when it foresaw another fraternity willing to take up the printer's ink. *The Athenian*, "A Fortnightly Magazine issued in the Literary interests of the Illinois Wesleyan University and its Greek-Letter Fraternities," began on January 17, 1890, with a two-page essay entitled "The Idea Of Fraternity." Editors of the bi-weekly published a critique of their paper in which *The Notre Dame Scholastic* recognized it as "the recent rival of *The Elite Journal*," adding that "Typographically, the Athenian is inferior to the Elite Journal but it surpasses the latter in its quality and diversity of literary matter" (March 15, 1890). The paper even featured occasional "hard" news, including the story of how

> A young man from one of the Wesleyan Law classes met with a very

> narrow escape last Friday afternoon. In attempting to jump from a moving train between the union and O., I. and W. depots his overcoat caught on the step, under which he was swung and dragged some distance along the rail, greatly damaging his clothing, but luckily receiving little physical hurt. (February 15, 1890, quoted from *The Daily Pantagraph*)

Yet, most of *The Athenian*'s contents were devoted to arguments against the Elite society, branding it "an anti-fraternity organization . . . that employs itself in creating a division in class and college politics and interests, much to the detriment of these rather than to the fraternities themselves" (April 18, 1890). Another issue attacked the ironic name of the rival society, arguing that because the Elites only required that its members be students, "consequently, the society's ranks are filled with all classes of students" (March 15, 1890).

Like *The Oracle*, this Greek newspaper printed occasional items about sports—something the independent journals did not consider. The May 10, 1890 issue applauded "Athletic interests picking up" at IWU and observed that "It was a surprise to note that there was suitable places for the two new tennis courts on the 'miniature landscape garden' around the building." Curiously, *The Athenian* reported "the defeat, Saturday, of our ball nine," but neglected to include the score of the baseball game. And in promoting school athletics, *The Athenian* criticized *The Elite Journal* once more, setting off another round of attacks and counter-attacks.

When *The Wesleyan Echo* entered the fray in 1890, its editors—Richard Little, who went on to work as a war correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*, and Archie Bowen, who became publisher of the *Illinois State Journal*—promised to rise above the special interests that had divided the campus. Vowing to publish "a *college* paper" that would keep the best interests of the university in mind, they focused more on campus information than opinion and expanded coverage of departments. The November 27, 1891 issue, for example, featured briefs on the Department of Crayon (one of sixteen in the Wilson College of Arts, a course of study which took six years):

> The principal of the Department of Crayon tells us that letters are frequently received from old students . . . expressing their thankfulness that they were persuaded to learn the Wilson Progressive Eclectic Crayon Drawing. One received this week from a highly educated lady (an "ex-schoolmarm") now teaching this work says, "I shall ever bless the day I commenced learning your crayon drawing, for it gives me more pleasure than I can tell you to see the beautiful work that even an amateur can do."

Although *The Echo* opted for this sort of cheerleading rather than mudslinging, administrators and faculty had apparently lost their patience with student publications. In the end, typography, not controversy, did them all in. According to minutes from the March 26, 1894 meeting, the faculty resolved

> That the publishers of the Echo be notified that the typography of the paper must be more carefully attended to and the errors of grammar and spelling so plainly observable must be eliminated in the next issue or

> thereafter the Faculty will be under the necessity of ordering its distribution discontinued. . . . That a committee be raised to devise some way of making a paper that will be a creditable presentation of the University, and that a report be made at the next meeting.

The committee recommended that "under no circumstances should a paper be conducted under the name of the university when managed by parties not students." Their plan called for the formation of a paper which would include

> a board of seven editors, four from the present Junior class, and three from the present Sophomore class . . . all to be chosen by the Faculty. These seven editors to have entire charge of the management of the paper, to choose their own officers out of the number, with the exception of the editor-in-chief, to divide annually any profits that may accrue from the attempt, and to share any deficit that may be made. (April 6, 1894)

In addition to holding the editors of the new newspaper financially responsible, faculty voted to make the editor-in-chief "responsible to the Faculty for the reading and advertising matter that appears in the paper."

Thus, *The Argus* was born.

THE WESLEYAN ARGUS.

THE COLLEGE PAPER.

VOL. I. BLOOMINGTON, ILL., SEPTEMBER 17, 1894. No. 1.

AN EASTERN TALE.

A pious sheik, the ancient story tells,
Lived near a sacred mountain in the East,
And all his hours not given to fast and prayer
Were spent in giving cheer to man and beast.

One night while passing through the tents he heard
An Arab's voice in earnest, fervent prayer,
And paused, rejoiced to find the midnight hour
Was spent invoking Allah's loving care.

His long prayer done, the Arab saw the sheik,
And called attention to the sleeping throng;
"*I* rise to pray three times before the morn,
They sleep like clods of earth the whole night long."

So sad and sorrowful the sheik's response,
Abashed, he sought his vacant bed again:
"Better to sleep on prayerless couch till dawn
Than waken but to *blame* thy fellowmen."

—*Victor Gage Kimbert.*

THE EVOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

SECOND PRIZE ORATION, I. W. U. CONTEST, 1894—J. RIGGS ORR.

The world of nature is subject to continual change. The stony strata, which today the earth unfolds, are but the record of past revolutions. The seared leaves of autumn are followed by the bright verdure of spring. Plants spring from the earth, blossom, and wither away, but from their decay rise higher and more beautiful forms. From the struggling bit of protoplasm of a bygone age Divine Agency has evolved the varied, complex forms of animal life. Even dumb matter, winging its way under the guiding hand of the Creator, moves in steady rounds. Our ponderous earth is whirling through shoreless space. The rivers glide unceasingly along their earth-worn channels. Everywhere there is motion, and in every change nature unfolds her plan of development. Onward toward some distant goal each atom moves, and every form of life tends to a higher state.

The science of government presents the same succession and contrast. Lower forms are succeeded by higher; the new supplants the old, and the old unites with the new. Everywhere there is growth, development, and improvement. The cycles of revolving years have revealed the ever advancing tide of humanity's evolution. We cannot go backward. Our steps tend ever toward a higher plane. Each age imparts its lesson; each period has its meed of gold. In the progress of social evolution, paganism has given place to Christianity, tyranny to monarchy, and feudalism to representative government. Even in the midnight of the middle ages, when God's stars forgot to shine, foundations were being laid for better social systems. States and governments are born but to die. But, as mankind moves onward in the march of civilization, government has advanced as well. From the despotisms of Persia and Egypt came the republics of Greece and Rome, bringing faint gleams of future civilization, and the course of empire, sweeping over their sacred fields, gathered the subtle strains of freedom until the refrain of liberty reverberated on the shores of a new world.

Freedom of action, civil and individual, has

The first Argus *front page.*

CHAPTER 2

Evolution of *The Argus*

From Literary Journal to Newspaper

The Wesleyan Argus appeared on Monday, September 17, 1894 with a front page that featured poetry and oration instead of hard news. For the next six years, the newspaper—printed on 16, 7 1/2x12-inch stapled pages with a magazine-style cover—filled its front pages with poems, speeches, short stories and essays on everything from travel to astronomy. The front page of that first issue, which editors subtitled "The College Paper," led with Victor George Kimbert's poem, "An Eastern Tale," and J. Riggs Orr's oration, "The Evolution of Government," which won second place at Wesleyan's annual intercollegiate oratorical contest.

Consistent with other front page orations and essays of the decade, Orr's was so full of purple prose and complex sentences that it sounded more like verbose` novelist (Sir) Walter Scott than newsman Walter Cronkite:

> And moving onward to the harmonious symphony of true citizenship and a higher manhood, in one universal voice, a united people bids the world behold a true republic, an 'indissoluble union of indestructible states,' a nation where the hearts of the sturdy Northerner and impetuous Southerner beat in a unison of hope; where the golden gate on the West is matched by golden ties of brotherhood on the East; a land where freedom is complete, from bleak New England's rugged coast to the sunny slopes of the Western sea; from the Northern lakes to the starlit gulf.

Despite Orr's rhetoric, oration was not just a man's sport. One 1894 photograph caption, or "cutline," announced that Wesleyan students could learn a few things from "Miss Anna Lee Darnbrough, Public Reader and Teacher of Elocution and Delsartian Method [a system of calisthenics combined with singing, declamation and dancing to develop bodily grace]: "We subjoin a few Testimonials which may be of interesting value to those desiring her services." Like other publications of the era, *The Argus* had a tendency to capitalize improper nouns.

In addition to full length features on everything from the shrine of Guadalupe to Mars, literary articles dry as dust dominated early issues, supplemented by a hodgepodge of news items on campus events, organizations and

speakers. Stories that amounted to little more than announcements of events for the music and law schools, YMCA and YWCA appeared on pages three or four, while editors grouped campus notes under the headlines "Law Locals" and "Local and Personal" on successive pages. But few of the entries seem noteworthy by 1990s standards. Consider this Law Locals item from March 6, 1896:

> There is talk of the junior class "chipping in" and purchasing a spittoon for one of the professors, who cannot resist the temptation to use tobacco during the recitation hour. And from the looks of the floor, we would suggest the professor might have occasion to buy one or more for some of the class.

While such concerns seem comical by 1990s standards, they can be compared to the debate over second-hand smoke that caused students in 1993 to write *The Argus* in protest over the university ban on smoking.

Not many of those early news items were as issue-centered, however. Most reported simple comings and goings, such as the earth-shaking pronouncement that "On last Thursday evening, the members of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity entertained their gentlemen friends in their hall" (February 21, 1896).

Sports news like "We're not such cranks as to attempt to play football with eight inches of show on the ground" (December 17, 1895) came under an "Athletics" banner, while an "Exchange" section featured news from other papers, including Illinois State's *Vidette*, Northwestern's *Northwestern*, Nebraska's *Nebraskan*, Yale's *Yale Record*, the other "Wesleyan *Argus* in the field" at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and even the nearby Decatur *High School Observer*. Editorials and letters on school spirit, facilities, procrastination, courtesy and classwork appeared every few issues.

Under the direction of German and Greek Professor Wilbert T. Ferguson, Illinois Wesleyan's own university press printed *The Argus* from 1894 to 1903. "No addition to the Wesleyan in recent years has been more profitable than the establishment of a university press," wrote the November 1, 1895 *Argus*. "The first issues of *The Argus*, while an improvement over any hereto printed, will be improved upon until the appearance of the paper will challenge the admiration of the most fastidious."

Occasionally bordered with Wesleyan's navy blue and steel gray colors, which were changed to green and white in 1896, front cover designs varied. The most popular featured a drawing of Hedding Hall—which, because it was Bloomington-Normal's tallest building, also appeared on area post cards. Advertisements, most of them business card-sized, occupied an average of four pages at the front and back of every issue and featured extensive artwork and an occasional photo.

As stipulated in the spring, 1894 faculty mandate, *Argus* staff consisted of five junior and senior editors—an editor-in-chief, a literary editor, two local editors who covered campus news and an exchange editor to gather news from other colleges. A business manager and subscription agent completed the staff. Until 1912, college credit was given for sufficient work on *The Argus*, according

to the February 15, 1912 faculty meeting minutes. The regular staff took a one week hiatus every spring when, "according to time honored tradition," the freshman class printed the "Freshman Number," "to show the rest of the students their ability to do things" (April 8, 1921).

Days of publication randomly fluctuated between Monday and Friday until 1933, when it was decided that *The Argus* should be printed on Tuesday night and distributed on Wednesday morning after chapel services. The newspaper switched to a Friday distribution date in 1957 and has not changed since.

Subscription rates started out at one dollar per year ("payable in advance"), 40 cents per semester and 10 cents for a single issue. Students had to subscribe to *The Argus* until the 1920s, when they paid for the paper through their student activity fees. Reports from early issues indicate that nearly all of Wesleyan's 400 students subscribed, though not all paid their bills on time. Editors would often print notes reminding readers not only to pay their subscriptions, but also to read the newspaper for their own enjoyment and not pass it on to a non-subscriber.

In 1900, *The Argus* shifted from a journal-style, bi-weekly format to a coverless eight-page weekly. Editors added an events calendar and university/staff directories on the newly-designed front page, which measured 9x12 1/2 inches. Individual issue prices fell to five cents, but subscriptions remained a dollar. By 1902, the newspaper reported that "Many students keep files of *The Argus* throughout their course, and find them very interesting to review years after."

Students from the class of 1903 had some interesting material to review from the April 23 issue of that year, which reported that a Wesleyan student had kidnapped a neighborhood girl. According to *The Argus*, the girl was blocking the outside light the student was using to perform an experiment in a biology laboratory: "The gentleman who was detailed to do the work stepped out and gently seizing the first girl by the arm remarked in a harmless voice that she would make a splendid little specimen for dissection." The student kept hold of the girl just long enough for her friend to report the incident. "Her panic stricken mother turned in an alarm to the police" and organized "a battalion of indignant citizens of all ages and sizes, both male and female," wrote *The Argus*. Despite this lynch mob, the paper never reported if police arrested the student, which leads one to wonder about the credibility of the article in the first place.

Despite the newspaper's success, the 1904 editorial board decided to make *The Argus* less of a memento and more "strictly a newspaper" by eliminating poetry, essays and short stories:

> It is our intention to edit a college newspaper and do away with the habit of running some dry essay as a leader each week. We hope that in this way we will bring the students alumni and friends more closely together and that at the end of the year we can all say that we really have a live college paper. (September 23, 1904)

The staff printed news articles on visiting speakers, activities and alumni, while football game stories made their first appearance on the front page—a trend that would continue until 1943.

The Wesleyan Argus

Published weekly in the interest of the Illinois Wesleyan University and its students.

Vol. XL. No. 7. BLOOMINGTON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1904. Price Five Cents

PARADE IN PAJAMAS

U. of California Students Celebrate Strange Annual Custom Syracuse Downs Dancing

Chicago Regulates Class Elections

Last Friday evening the students of California University had their annual pajama parade. The pajamas for the occasion are received from the classmen of the preceding year and were once white but are made to do services as long as they will hold together, the occasion of the celebration is in pursuance of a yearly custom.

From Syracuse comes the report that no student will be allowed to dance either as a member of organizations or individually and any of the students delighting themselves in this manner will be rewarded by expulsion The Chancellor of the institution seems to think that the brains need more development than the heels.

The Senior Council of the University of Chicago voted to call the attention of the Deans to the need of more regularity in class elections. The action was caused by the difficulty about the recent Junior class election, for which, it is asserted, no adequate notice was given.

University of Pennsylvania got a good slice of junk in the form of $500,000 to meet current expenses. The change will do them good.

The Senior class at Wisconsin, having become convinced that the independent attitude of the Freshman class this year was against all Wisconsin tradition and dangerous to the proper administration of college affairs, has passed rules requiring that no Freshman shall sit on the gym fence, carry a cane, wear a Derby hat, or smoke a pipe. There was a rumor that the Freshmen intended to rebel, but the rulings have finally been obeyed.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the university will be the occasion of a great demonstration at Tufts University. Preparations are now being made for the event.

F. Templeton broke the record for the twenty yard swim at the Bartlett Gym pool last week at Chicago in ten and one fifth seconds which is only one-fifth second behind the world's record for that event.

The students of Knox at Galesburg had the pleasure of showing the members of the Woman's Board of Missions around the buildings of the university. The woman's organization was holding a meeting at Galesburg and

Continued on page 3, column 2

SHEAR THE FRESHMEN

Freshies Hold a Class Party and Are Given Their First Disciplinary Training

The Freshman class party was a grand success and was largely attended, although the uninvited guests far outnumbered the invited ones. Misses Laurastine and Mary Marquis were the hostesses of the aggregation. Early in the evening a large crowd of upper classmen assembled to act as a reception committee for the Freshmen. The first fruit plucked was Fred Brian, honored president of the class; William Rayburn followed but was released on account of his talent for prevarication displayed in the manner in which he denied his membership to the class. Ole Johnson furnished plenty of trouble for a large number before he was taken and then all were taken to the University where an entrance was effected by a window and the rewards to the victims were meted out. Brian was first on the program and his number was greatly appreciated by the spectators. An eye witness to the performance can best describe the proceedings.

"I was caught and carried along in the jam and finally landed dazed and blinking at the top of the chapel stairs. I saw a mass of moving figures in the dim light and saw Brian holding the center of the stage while a husky bruiser ghosted over his prey and menacingly wielded a large pair of sheepshears with which he proceeded to remove his raven locks in a manner that showed former training along a tonsorial line. "Aw don't fellows" pleaded the victim, but his words were greeted with a hoarse and grating laughter and only added fuel to the already brightly glowing class spirit and with his sally, off came the rest of the hair and the convict was greeted with derisive cheers. Ole, on account of his upholding Wesleyan's honor on the gridiron was spared the disgrace of having his locks shorn and let off after displaying his art by singing, speaking and reciting. Richard O'Connell was last seen going in a westerly direction at a speed that would make a forty horse power auto feel ashamed of itself; and the remarkable manner in which he made himself scarce promises even to rival the wonderful disappearing acts of Herman the magician."

SPECIAL TO THE ARGUS.

The village of Danvers is in a state of intense excitement owing to the peculiar conduct of a tall heavy built young man who passed through our streets last

Continued on page 4, column 2

TO PLAY BALDWINS TODAY

Team to Play a Strong Local Aggregation This Afternoon Barclay the Latest Recruit

This afternoon Wesleyan will play a game with a town team called the Baldwins, at Wilder Field. The game will be called at 3:00 p. m. Wesleyan has been working hard since the Normal game, having given a good deal of time to tackling the dummy. Freshman Barclay, who weighs about 180 pounds is out for the team and he will greatly strengthen the line. The Baldwins have a good strong team. The game will undoubtedly be an interesting one to see.

Let every student come out and help the boys on to victory.

DOINGS OF LIT. SOCIETIES

The Munsellian Literary Society carried out its program as posted. At the close of the program Prof. Armstrong read a very interesting story describing the death of Benedict Arnold.

The Munsellian Literary Society will give a Political Program next week, the regular night for meeting coming on election day, Nov. 8th.

Roll call. Quotations from prominent campaign speakers.

Define the four main issues of the present Presidential Campaign Bert Cunningham. Stump speeches; Republican, Mr. Gordon; Democratic, Mr. A. B. Wright, Miss Etta Roe; Prohibition, Oscar Stewart.

At the regular meeting of the Adelphic Literary Society last Tuesday night, the constitution, which has been in the hands of the executive committee undergoing revision, was accepted by the society. Steps are now being taken to increase the membership and arouse greater interest.

The society also voted to invite Prof. McClone to act as second faculty adviser for the society. The choosing of a second adviser was made necessary as Prof. Ferguson finds it impossible to attend the meetings regularly.

Y. W. C. A.

The regular meeting of the Y. W. C. A. was held in their hall Monday afternoon, Mrs. DeMotte led the meeting, her subject being, "The New Jerusalem."

The state Y. W. C. A. Convention will be held in Peoria this year. It will last from Thursday, Oct. 3d until Sunday, Oct. 6th

Henry Hyndman visited his uncle at Evanston, Ill., last Friday.

WESLEYAN, 5; NORMAL, 4

The Team Scores Its First Victory In a Fierce Struggle With the Pedagogues by Star Playing

Story of the Game

Last Saturday the Normal University and Wesleyan teams lined up for the struggle of supremacy, before a crowd of four-hundred. The day was an ideal one for the spectators yet a little too warm for the players. McCullough was placed at quarter back and proved himself to be a "ready" player, making several long runs. Church broke through for many long gains, ranging from five to thirty yards. The rest of our boys played good ball considering the weight of the Normal team. The stars for Normal were Stratton, Dillon, Ford and Rice. But few substitutes were used by either side. In the second half, Johnson took Wolenwaber's place at center, while F. Johnson took Church's position at half back. The following is the story of the game: Wesleyan kicked off to Normal who defended the east goal. Stratton was downed on Normal's thirty-five yard line. Normal was unable to make their desired gain through Wesleyan's line and were held for downs. Stratton kicked to McCullough who by a neat exhibition of dodging carried the ball back to Normal's forty yard line. After a series of plays, Normal gained possession of the ball on a fumble but soon lost it on downs. At this point Church went through tackle for five yards and McCullough ran a wide end run for eight yards. Normal secured the ball on downs but was soon forced to kick. Wesleyan started the rush from the center of the field. Church went through tackle for five yards which he followed up with a fifteen yard gain through half back. Finley easily made his gains also Dolan ploughed through the line for the distance needed. Church was sent over the line for the first touchdown. Score, Wesleyan 5, Normal, 0.

SECOND HALF

Normal kicked to Wesleyan, who defended the east goal. McCullough who received the ball was downed on Wesleyan's forty-five yard line. Here Dillon and Britton of Normal did some fine tackling and Wesleyan was held for downs. Rice, Ford, Dillon advanced the ball towards Wesleyan's goal. Wesleyan took a decided brace, and with the ball in two yards of their goal, held the hard plunges of the heavy Normal team. McCullough punted to Stratton who carried the ball to Wesley-

Continued on page 3 column 2

The first broadsheet—1904 Argus *front page.*

The Argus' interest in maintaining an East-Midwest connection (established in pre-*Argus* publications) often enabled it to feature more sensational news than could be found in Bloomington, as reported in this October 7, 1904 exchange column: "Arthur D. Wyman, an instructor in the chemical laboratory of Harvard University, died from injuries sustained by being run down by an automobile. The owner of the automobile was arrested, charged with manslaughter and was released on bail." Articles on Harvard and other Ivy League schools appeared in almost every issue, as if to suggest to students that their own education here in the Midwest was somehow connected.

The new *Argus* not only read like a newspaper, but it also looked like one. The editorial board expanded pages to 11x17 1/2 inches with four columns of copy on each page. The change allowed editors to rank important news at the tops of pages and less important news at the bottom. The staff apparently felt news from other colleges was important enough to "lead" with and typically ran such news in the first column. Local campus stories on increased chapel attendance, the results of the previous week's debate or fraternity and sorority activities followed in columns two and three. Sports news such as the "Lit versus Law" school student football game appeared in column four. "One of the most spirited games of football played this fall on Wilder Field was the Law-Lit contest," wrote the November 25, 1905 *Argus*. "Both sides played to win and the score 12 to 0 in the lawyers favor, does not show the real fight."

Editors relegated minor campus notes and news briefs to the inside pages: "there really is to be a band, in fact, there already is one" (January 12, 1906), "Elizabeth Rowe was a Wesleyan visitor on Tuesday" (January 12, 1906) and, of course, "Have YOU paid your subscription?" (December 10, 1906). If an inch of space needed to be filled, editors resorted to pre-*Argus* tricks and inserted a joke:

> 'A man told me the other day that I looked like you.'
> 'Where is he? I would like to punch him.'
> 'I killed him.' (January 25, 1907)

The Argus' format changes forced the staff to leave the university press for the newspaper's business manager, Bert E. Hempstead ('06), who printed the broadsheet at 109 E. Washington St., according to the masthead. When Hempstead graduated from Wesleyan, The Bloomington Printing and Stationary Company took over the printing for 1906-07 academic year. In 1907-08, the newspaper's nameplate changed from *The Wesleyan Argus* to *Illinois Wesleyan Argus*, and the format switched to eight 9x12 1/2-inch pages. In 1908-09, the newspaper switched back to the original bi-weekly magazine style format, with a cover and stapled pages.

Despite the changes, the paper still gave students their dollar's worth by extending its length from 16 to 24 pages—the most in *Argus* history. News stories and essays still shared the front page with football game stories and included such hard news as this October 29, 1912 story:

> Beyond a doubt the library is now in its best shape it has ever been, within the memory of the present corps of students. Some students

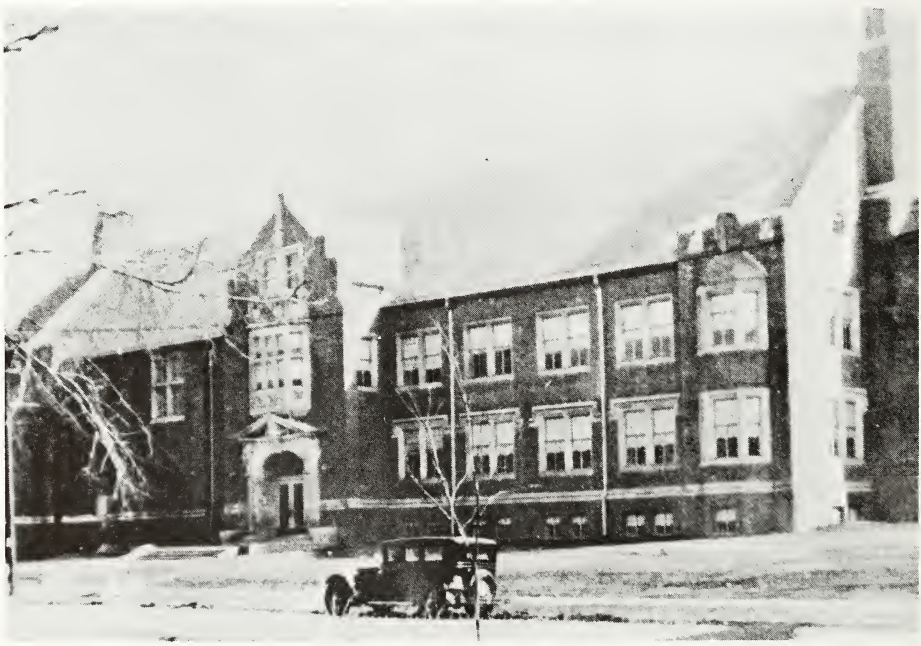
> didn't know that we had a library . . . It is not very large and is sadly lacking in the essentials of a reference library, but due to the efficient services of Miss Sinclair, what there is, is now on tap.

World War I resulted in a shift in contents, with the *Argus* devoting at least four pages to war coverage in every issue. Stories updating the status of Wesleyan students serving overseas ran alongside essays on "Compulsory Military Education" and "Food and the World War."

1921: No More Covers—The Newspaper Era Begins

In 1921, *The Argus* decided to become strictly a newspaper once and for all, adopting a 10x13 1/2 broadsheet format with four columns of copy per page. Editors phased oratory and short stories out of the newspaper for good, except for running a literary supplement each year which featured student poetry, short stories and essays. In 1961, Wesleyan's first continuous literary magazine, the *Black Book*, made such supplements obsolete.

While the news was "newsier" during this era, if the editors' ranking of stories is any indicator of student interest, then the Wesleyan community was more concerned about campus "rah-rah" than serious subjects. In 1921, for example, the staff ran a huge headline for the basketball game story, "Wesleyan Wins Over Bradley 27-15," but only included a few paragraphs to inform the campus that the "Phi Gam House [was] Destroyed By Fire" or report that "Elizabeth Haley Dies Of Pneumonia."



Presser Hall (1930), site of many concerts and convocations, including the latest alumni recital by Dawn Upshaw, a Grammy-winning soprano for the New York Metropolitan Opera, on September 24, 1989.

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN ARGUS

Volume XXVIII | December 2, 1921 | Number 4

Wesleyan and Normal Struggle Through Thanksgiving Day Battle Without Scoring

"THE MASQUERS" MEET AND ORGANIZE

Considering "Experience" as One of the Plays to be Given This Year

"The Masquers" met Tuesday evening at Miss Laughlin's studio for the purpose of organizing for the year. Miss Scherer, who recently won first honors for Wesleyan in the State Oratorical contest held at Monmouth, was elected president. Ruth Wolbert, Vice-President. Mary Le May, Secretary, and Rachael Givens, Treasurer. The membership of the club this year is twelve. Anyone to be eligible for membership must have taken a successful part in a play and must receive a majority affirmative vote from the club.

Miss Laughlin Directs

Miss Anne P. Laughlin, well known in Bloomington for her successful work last year, will direct all plays put on by the club. Miss Laughlin is a real coach and her ability to get what she wants is no hidden fact on the campus. Last year, under her direction, "The Masquers" were reorganized, having been disbanded during the war. Three plays were put on, "Milestones," a heavy three act drama, and two short, one act plays. Their success makes it evident that the program for this year will be a good one.

Plans for Year

The plans for the year are not completed but the club is seriously considering staging "Experience," a play that is very popular with the public, "In Comes Jimmie," a clever comedy is also under consideration. Later in the year Van Dyke's play "The House of Rimmon" may be given. Besides these longer plays it is the plan of the club to put on at least four short one-act plays. So "The Masquers" will have a large part in promoting the dramatic atmosphere of the school and city as well.

GREENVILLE CONFERENCE

Attention—all of ye!

Everyone remembers the Hedding Conference last year, don't they? Well the Student Volunteers are meeting at Greenville College this year, December 9-11. Illinois Wesleyan is only allowed 20 delegates;—so get your name in early if you want to go!

This is one great opportunity. Ask anyone who was there last year. So don't miss it!

Word was received Saturday of the death of Mrs. Harris, of Pontiac. Mrs. Harris was the mother of Helen Harris who is a student here. We wish to extend sympathy to her in her bereavement.

WESLEYAN HAS EXCELLENT DEBATE PROSPECTS THIS SEASON

With splendid response and enthusiasm on the part of the men interested in debate and with a very extensive intercollegiate program already arranged, the prospects for a successful debate season for Illinois Wesleyan have never been better. It is true that there is not the same amount of enthusiasm behind debating as there is behind some other school activities, however, that debating is having a significant place among the college activities at Wesleyan is proved by the enthusiastic response of the men who desire to try out for places on the regular teams.

The program as thus far arranged consists of a triangular and a pentagonal series of debates. The triangular debate in which Illinois Wesleyan, North Western College, and Ripon College of Ripon, Wisconsin, are the rival schools will be held on February 23, 1922. At this time the Wesleyan negative will debate the Ripon affirmative on the Wesleyan platform. The Wesleyan affirmative will travel to North Western.

The Pentagonal League consists of the five Illinois colleges holding Chapters of Pi Kappa Delta, the forensic fraternity. This arrangement is really a two triangular arrangement which gives each school an opportunity to debate every other school in the league. These debates will be held on March 10 and March 17 respectively. In the first debate the affirmative teams will debate on the home floor. The schedule is as follows:

Bradley-Carthage at Bradley
Carthage-Eureka at Carthage.
Eureka-Hedding at Eureka
Hedding-Wesleyan at Hedding
Wesleyan-Bradley at Wesleyan

In the second debate of this series the negative teams will debate on the home floors according to the following schedule

Continued on page 7

THE WILSON MEETINGS

[illegible] a rare treat in the lecture of I. Stitt Wilson, the past week. Mr. Wilson is a brilliant scholar, and his talks were based on "Social and Constructive Christianity."

In his first lecture, Monday morning, Mr. Wilson clearly outlined for us the great problems which the world is now facing. In the next lectures he helped us think out a way to cope with these problems.

We were most unfortunate in that Mr. Wilson had to cut short his visit with us, and go on to Detroit, Mich. For this reason we only heard four lectures out of the series of six. This doubling up process was a great disadvantage to Mr. Wilson,—and in fact he never really concluded his lecture at all. But the Y. M. and Y. W. are planning a "follow up" course which will carry on the good work that I. Stitt Wilson has so ably commenced.

STUDENT FRIENDSHIP FUND

Tuesday morning D. M. M. Richardson of Chicago made a touching appeal to the Wesleyanites in behalf of the suffering students of Europe. After Mr. Richardson's talk the Chapel was divided into the Whites and the Greens. Pledge cards were quickly passed out. Yell leaders Saunzig and Pulley took their places and the fun began. LaRue Van Meter, as Treasurer of the I. W. L. Student Friendship Fund, took his position with the Greens as official scorer, while Sarah Eppler as Asst. last Treasurer presided for the Whites. And would you believe it? In a few moments the Greens had over $300 pledged and the Whites had about $250. Wesleyan is going to try to get their total fund up to $1,000.

Have YOU done your part?
Can YOU do more?

LOCAL SQUADS STAGE MUD FIGHT

Field Was in Very Bad Condition—Normal Team Fought Hard Throughout

[illegible] Wesleyan and State Normal tangled in scoreless tie Thanksgiving morning at Wilder Field. The gridiron was in miserable condition and every team could do its best work. Illinois Wesleyan threatened to score in the first quarter, but lacked the punch to put the ball over, while the Normal team did its best work in the third quarter when it appeared [illegible] Teachers would score. On the next play after the kickoff Hutton threw a long pass to Chatterton which might have netted a touchdown had not the Normal end fumbled the ball. Wesleyan outplayed the Normal team throughout the remainder of the quarter and got within striking distance of the goal, but could not score. In the last half Rogers recovered a punt by Rose on his 28 yard line and the Normal team in a whirl-wind good offensive work through the third quarter. Van Meter fumbled a Normal pass in the second half with apparently a clear field ahead of him, and after a pass, Rose to Ford, had put the ball on the 3-yard line. In the second down, with but a minute to play, Zuser forward passed over the goal line to Bebow, who fumbled the ball. A place kick might have won the game for Wesleyan.

Neither team was able to play its best brand of football because of the mud and there is no doubt that the Normal team put up a much better game than the Wesleyan team expected them to do. Normal's team work was effective at times while the Wesleyan team played its best only by hits and starts.

Chaugnon and Litwiller, the Normal ends, broke up plays repeatedly behind the line, while Doty was also able to break through the line repeatedly. Jim Sterling and Roman played consistently in the back field, while Markman, who recently graduated from the second team, probably played his best game of the season. Many of Wesleyan's gains were made through the tackle positions.

Zuser made several good gains around the ends, but was not able to get away for very long runs because of the mud. The Normal ends were permitted to slip through several times and tackled him before he was fairly started for losses. Ford made gains almost every time he was permitted to carry the ball and received a couple of forward passes thrown by Rose in the final quarter, one of which netted twenty yards and placed the ball on the 8 yard line. Allton made three or four good gains through the Normal line. Gottschalk played the

The 1921 Argus *abandoned magazine format and featured a classy photo nameplate.*

It is possible that Clarence A. Burner's *Normalite* newspaper press printed the 1921 *Argus*, which had a flashy photo "flag" featuring a picture of the campus in the background and "The *Wesleyan Argus"* printed in the foreground. But no records exist in the Illinois Wesleyan University archives which would confirm this, and the *Normalite*'s business records were destroyed in a 1983 fire. Richard J. Finfgeld ('27), a former *Argus* sports editor, recalls going to Burner's print shop during his freshman year, so it is certain that Burner printed *The Argus* from at least 1923 to 1932.

As the 1920s roared on, so did Wesleyan's newspaper, which reported the university's own era of prosperity. The university laid cornerstones for Memorial Gym in 1921, Buck Library in 1922 and Presser Hall in 1929. In addition to these large-scale building projects, the paper also covered smaller-scale endeavors, such as when "the largest *Wesleyana* on record" had gone to press (April 22, 1927) or when "One Hundred Fifty New Volumes Appear On Library Shelves" (September 30, 1926). Given the October 3, 1928 article "Mighty Midnight Spectacle Part of Wesleyan Tradition," the city of Bloomington was transformed into something out of F. Scott Fitzgerald's 1920s novel, *The Great Gatsby*:

> All traffic on Main Street will stop—whether or not car owners desire to do so. The street cars will run after-a-fashion . . . the milling mob will propel its way through the business section to the very doors of the court house [where] the school songs will awaken loyal surgings within every student's heart. The procession will then wend its way back to the university for this new feature of this old tradition. A mighty bonfire will be built upon the campus, one that will lift high its fiery beacon as in defiance to all who would say Wesleyan is not the best.

With the more newspaperish look, the staff officially shortened the newspaper's name from *Illinois Wesleyan Argus* to *The Argus* in 1923 and shifted back to a weekly publication. Two-to five-paragraph editorials on topics such as the resurgence of women, student regulations and Wesleyan's examination system appeared on page four, with varsity and intramural sports on pages six and seven of each eight-page issue. Wesleyan football and basketball games were viewed with particular excitement, IWU suited up against well-known schools such as as DePaul, Illinois, Notre Dame and Michigan State.

Full-length feature articles on people, places or events also appeared in the late 1920's. Some features focused on the more interesting personality traits of Wesleyan faculty members. For example, the December 12, 1928 issue told of the wrestling abilities of speech professor Alfred A. Hopkins, who held the unofficial championship of the state of New Hampshire. Other features had a national and international flavor, including "Rhodes Scholars Are Popular Respected, Successful At Oxford," "Survey Of College Man's Styles In Five Universities Shows Common Tendencies In Selection Of Spring Outfits" and "Europe Is Summer Attraction To Students During Vacation." The February 16, 1928 arti-

cle, "Natives Of India Want Christ, But Not Sects," is another example of a classic feature :

> They [the Indians] love an automobile. Some of them will drop their bundle and run in to the jungles, where they peek out from under the trees when they see it coming. . . . More often, they come up to it, turn on the lights and giggle. . . . They feel the need of some higher power, and to satisfy this need, they worship even a piece of string or a stone.

Such features allowed the newspaper to expand to a world beyond Wesleyan. In fact, during the 1920s the newspaper extended beyond the school year as well, publishing the *Baby Argus* one summer. Sizably smaller, the 1926 *Baby Argus* kept students informed of such "issues" as the latest temperatures during Bloomington's hot summer months.

With the 1930s came an *Argus* that retreated from the outside world and focused on campus events. Stories on campus speakers (who were usually visiting professors from other universities), debate, football and basketball teams, and Greek organizations dominated page one. In fact, Greek life was so important that the May 4, 1932 front page headlined with "Sigma Kappas and Phi Gams Cop Honors In Annual Stunt Show: Large And Enthusiastic Crowd Applauds Greek Letter Event." Given the description of the winning Phi Gam stunt, entitled "Resurrection," Wesleyan students worked just as hard to prepare for social contests as they did on their classwork:

> The hall was completely darkened and slowly the head of the "corpse," phosphorous illuminated, rose over the edge of the coffin. At the same time a cold wind blew over the audience as the smell of dead flowers floated out. Slowly the figure, Harry Fagerburg, began a dance, which gradually became wilder and in which the 'corpse' was joined by other figures. . . . A skull floated over the audience amid the shrieks of the audience.

Staffs also came up with feature stories on subjects ranging from ancient pianos to third-party politics. One entitled "What Do The Wesleyan Janitors Think of Us" told how five janitors described Wesleyan students as "a fine group." "I think we have a very wise group of students at Wesleyan this year," said one janitor. "The students appear to be quite serious in their desire in the fact that thus far, they have not destroyed or damaged any property" (February 24, 1932). Another feature, "Former Student Leaders Relate Western Thrills," (December 17, 1936), reported Harold Livingston's ('36) and John LaMonica's ('36) 600-mile hitch-hiking trip to the Pacific coast.

Under the editorship of Charles Virgil Martin ('32), *The Argus* underwent complete sectional re-organization. "When people read the newspaper, I wanted it to be in pragmatic condition—meaning stories were reasonably organized," said Martin, the oldest former editor alive at the time of the centennial. "There was some resistance on the part of the staff who wanted to do things the old way, but I couldn't stand seeing stories blend into each other."

After the front page, the staff grouped arts, music and an occasional book review into a section entitled "The Wesleyan Muse" on page two. Page three

THE ARGUS

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

LUCINDA MONROE TO SING FRIDAY

ARGUS WINS PLACES SIX TIMES IN I. C. P. A. CONTEST

Wesleyan Muse Takes First In Feature Column

Mrs. Woods To Give Lecture Friday

"Carmen" Presented To Enthusiastic Audience

Edith Ernst Wins Design Prize

Connected With Grand Opera At Chicago; On Air

Hoag Winner Of Fellowship At U. of Clark

Crime Students Are Visitors at Penitentiaries

Philharmonic to Present Benefit Concert May 15

Central Ill. Girls Attend Women's Day

George E. Scringer, Class Of '71 Tells Of School Days

MUNSELL WAS THEN PRESIDENT; LIED TO KEEP FEET ON DESK; GAVE ADVICE ABOUT MARRIAGE AND ART; WAS BORN TEACHER WITH PROFOUND MIND; GUIDED IN CRITICAL PERIOD

The largest front page in Argus *history (1933-34).*

contained dance and wedding information, while "Society" and "Social" sections on Greek organizations featured such news as "Paul Hensel entertained a group of friends last Saturday evening at the Sig House. A discussion on literature was the subject of the gathering" (December 15, 1931). Two or three editorials, a personals section entitled "Rah Stuff" and letters to the editor occupied page four, with more campus-oriented announcements and feature stories on page five. "Sports" dominated pages six and seven, while the back page featured jumps from page one and a gossip column entitled "Hanz Heckles," which included a "weakly poem:"

> She doesn't wear paint; she doesn't wear rouge;
> She doesn't smoke, she doesn't booze;
> She doesn't kiss, she doesn't pet;
> She's 58 and single yet. (January 6, 1932)

Obviously, political correctness was not yet a journalistic concern.

Perhaps the most welcome change in the stylistic history of *The Argus* came in 1933, when Gummerman Printing Office (known then as Journal Job Printing) started printing the newspaper under the watchful eyes of John Gummerman and his son, Bernard ('31). From 1933 to 1972, Gummerman's linotype machine typeset 39 volumes of *The Argus* while a manual flatbed press did the inking. After the flatbed press became obsolete in 1965, Gummerman's used a huge Goss Cox-O-Type Web press to print the newspaper. But the advent of the offset press just seven years later came so suddenly that Bernie didn't even bother to remove the final May 5, 1972 *Argus* from the middle of the Web. It remained there until the press was sold at auction in September of 1993, when Gummerman's finally closed its doors.

Not only does Gummerman's hold the record for printing *The Argus* for the longest period of time (60 years), but it also printed the largest *Argus* page in history—a 14x34-inch giant for the four-page issues of 1934. Vertical lines separated six columns of copy, and at least one headline per issue ran across an entire page.

Although life at Wesleyan was, at first, apparently unaffected by the Depression, hard times did catch up with the campus in the latter half of the 1930s. *The Argus* ran no more than four or five photographs an issue during the 1920s, and that number dwindled to one or zero by 1937. Charlotte Fitzhenry Robling ('38), editor during 1937-38, summed up the photo situation when she said, "I think we would have had more pictures if we could have afforded a camera." Most of the photographs *The Argus* printed came courtesy of *The Daily Pantagraph*, Bloomington's local newspaper.

Despite hard times, *The Argus* reported that Wesleyan students engaged in the same carefree college activities as always. A college education during this era was a luxury, and optimism for a better future won out over doom and gloom. Pep rallies and Homecoming stories became front-page fixtures as the decade evolved. The newspaper also devoted a large amount of space to plays and musicals. For example, the March 21, 1936 front page article, "Critics Laud

THE ARGUS

Illinois Wesleyan University

VOL. 30 BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1943 NO. 13

Latin American Specialist To Give Lecture

Pan-American Post War Programs Is Subject Of Talk

Samuel Guy Inman, a specialist on Latin American affairs, will speak on Pan-American Post War programs at the Forum lecture series Sunday, Dec. 12 at 4:15 p.m. in the Bloomington high school auditorium.

Mr. Inman was born in Texas and educated at Columbia university. He has visited Latin America annually since 1914, attending the fifth Pan-American conference in 1923 at Santiago and those following.

Dr. Inman has been lecturer and exchange professor at various universities in the United States, Latin America, Madrid, Hawaii, and Geneva.

At present Dr. Inman is on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and Yale university.

Hargreaves On Music Board

Saturday, Dec. 4 the Board of Control of the Illinois Music Educators association met in Chicago at the executive headquarters of the Music Educators National conference. Dr. Robert Hargreaves, one of the two members of this board representing schools and departments of music affiliated with universities of 5000 or fewer enrollment, was present for the meeting.

One of the features of the day was a luncheon with members of the In- and About-Chicago Music club, at which Mrs. Hazel B. Nohavec spoke. She is head of the music department, University of Minnesota, and president of the North Central region of the Music Educators National conference.

Contest On Song Writing Open To Students

Can you write THE song of World War II? Magazine Digest in cooperation with Raymond Paige and his NBC "Salute to Youth" orchestra is sponsoring a war song contest in high schools and colleges throughout the United States and Canada.

Winners will receive $250 in cash, a trip to New York for an appearance on "Salute to Youth" (if wartime facilities and the individual's situation permit); nation-wide publicity and promotion of the winning song; and all rights, royalties, and monies resulting from publication. For further information see the Janu-

(Continued on page 3)

Cadet Charles Dischenger

'Dish' Is Former Commercial Artist, Baseball Player

Besides his present career of flying, Cadet Charles Dischenger has had some very varied and interesting occupations. For before he joined the Naval Aviation Corps, he worked in a torpedo plant, a commercial art studio, in a dance band, and played professional baseball.

But art was his main interest. He worked as an air brush artist in the Sprague Art Studio at St. Louis. "What do I think of Petty girls?" he answered, "Well, they're very pretty, but they couldn't come to life—they're not in proportion. Of course they are almost alive to some fellows that I know."

Charles was picked up by a baseball scout while he was playing in Peru, Illinois in the Mid-western Tournament, which represents all the midwestern states. Afterwards he played for the Bradford Bees, which is one of the Boston Braves minor league clubs.

The most fun that he has ever had was playing his first professional baseball game. The crowds, bands and autographs were just too much for him. Charlie believes very definitely in following one's impulses. His classic example is the story he tells about how one day he decided to go to Florida, and left for the state the next morning.

After the war, Charlie wants to play baseball in the summer and continue his art work in the winter. When asked what he considered art, he answered, "Well, art is the exact meanint between too little and too much."

93rd Birthday Celebrated

An open house was held in Duration hall Thursday, Dec. 2, in commemoration of Illinois Wesleyan's 93rd birthday.

A reception committee greeted the 200 alumni and friends of the school who attended. A group of School of Music students entertained with varied selections.

'Messiah' Presentation December 12

Two Performances Will Be Given Sunday Afternoon

The annual presentation of the famous oratorio, Handel's "Messiah" will be given in two performances Sunday, Dec. 12 in Presser hall. One performance will be at 2 o'clock, the other at 4 p.m.

Soloists on the program will be Mrs. Lloyd Wilson, soprano; Miss Genevieve Carlock, contralto; Mr. Russell Holliger, head of the voice department at Wesleyan, tenor; and Mr. Harold Dale Sauter, bass.

Dean Spencer Green will direct the performances and the accompaniment will be played by the string orchestra from the Bloomington - Normal Philharmonic Symphony, trained by Dr. Robert Hargreaves. Mrs. Mary Green will be at the piano and organ.

This presentation is under the sponsorship of the Amateur Musical club of Bloomington, and is made possible through an anonymous donor. Presser hall will assume an atmosphere of Christmas with the usual decorations. The programs are open to the public.

This year the presentation will be given under different circumstances than is customary. Previously the Bloomington-Normal Philharmonic Chorus, the Normal University Chorus, and the Wesleyan University Chorus had combined for this annual program. Due to the scarcity of male singers, it was found inadvisable to combine the groups this year.

★ ★

DEDICATION OF THE SERVICE FLAG

On behalf of the students, the faculty, the alumni, the Joint Board of Trustees and Official Visitors, and the friends of Illinois Wesleyan University, I hereby dedicate this Service Flag in honor of the men and women of Illinois Wesleyan University who are serving in the armed forces of their country and in reverent memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice and have already joined the roster of the inamortal. With this dedication we, with ever deepening devotion, pledge anew our allegiance to those ideals of freedom, justice, and brotherhood which our nation has ever upheld, and earnestly do we pray for the coming of the day of peace on earth and goodwill among men.

W. E. Shaw

★ ★

Students Receive Degrees, Flag Dedicated In Chapel

Monday's chapel was undoubtedly the most impressive thus far. With Jane Osterhoudt in charge the new Service Flag, to replace the one lost in the fire of Hedding Hall, was dedicated and four students received their degrees in a midterm informal ceremony.

Appropriately the program opened with the singing of the alma mater song, followed by brief announcements sponsored by different organizations. Henry Charles led group singing of patriotic songs of the four branches of the armed forces.

William R. Bach presented a short resume of the problems the home front must consider in trying to repay the heavy debt owed those men in uniform in all parts of the globe.

President Shaw formally dedicated the Service Flag, made by Women's League, to the Wesleyan students now in their country's service. There are now over 600 blue stars and 14 gold stars.

Henry Charles introduced and led the group in singing of "The Fiery Heart," a composite work commemorating the Hedding hall fire. Mr. Charles composed the music and Margot Patterson, the lyric.

Degrees from the College of Liberal Arts were given to Winston Churchill, B.A., and Richard Meikle, B.S., and to School of Music students Mimi Meyers and Rosemary Nangle went Bachelor of Music diplomas.

Singing of the national anthem and the benediction by Dr. Shaw marked the close of one of the year's best chapel programs.

December 7, 1941

December 7, 1941. It was a Sunday. America went to church, and prayed for the rest of the world—the other half that was fighting.

Then she came home to a Sunday dinner of beef roast waiting in the oven, baked potatoes and carrots steeped in savory juices. She turned on the radio to listen to the Sunday dinner music.

Then it came suddenly: "We interrupt this program to bring you further reports on the Jap attack against the Pearl Harbor defenses." The roast beef remained on the table—the juices turned to a greasy white.

"350 were reported killed by a direct hit on Hickman field. In addition to these casualties from an air raid by planes which have been identified as Japanese, three United

(Continued on page 2)

What Students Do Elsewhere

An all school project at North Park College, Chicago, is the writing and publishing of a campus poetry book every year. The students submit their writings, select the best ones, then have it published. It is strictly a student publication.

●

Every week the Decaturian, paper at James Millikin university, takes a poll on some important question pertaining to the war. Views of the students of each class are published weekly.

●

A mass prayer meeting was held at Wheaton college for the men in the service. It was conducted and planned by the students.

●

Augustana College holds a devotional period weekly and they feel that the attendance is better this year than in previous years. Each week there is a different speaker. The speakers are chosen from the student body.

The 50th anniversary year (1943-44).

Play, Outward Bound," not only gave a summary of the play, but also included comments from John Corbin, a critic for *The New York Times*. Throughout the rest of the decade, it was common to see bold headlines such as "VODVIL [sic] TONIGHT AT PRESSER HALL" and "HAMLET WILL BE GIVEN APRIL 4."

Students' carefree attitudes continued in the early 1940s. In September 1941, less than two weeks after three U.S. ships were attacked and President Roosevelt issued "shoot-on-sight" orders to the U.S. Navy in American defense waters, *The Argus* devoted a full-page story listing the pledges of every Greek organization on campus, along with a picture of each organization's pledge pin.

But quickly, World War II forced *The Argus* to replace such feature stories with war speaker stories and information on alumni and students serving overseas. The newspaper also acted as a communication link between the front and the campus, printing letters from soldiers and providing students with their overseas addresses. Social news (mostly pictures of Wesleyan "coeds" in wedding dresses) continued, as did a reduced Hanz-Heklish social gossip column entitled "Bee-Witcher." Despite the high number of men joining the service, Navy aviation cadets bivouacked at Wesleyan kept the middle pages full of sports news, while an increased number of editorials on page two encouraged students to buy war bonds and join Red Cross war activities.

Lighthearted student opinion polls occasionally ran during the early 1940s to ease the tensions of war. Some of the questions included, "Do you get a bang out of college?" "What's wrong with men?" and "What would you do if you had an extra nickel?" However, lighthearted material sometimes turned into ignorance, especially when *The Argus* printed a few racist jokes, such as:

> A colored country preacher, who was strong on visiting the female members of his flock, was traveling along the road to the house of one of his flock when he met the small son of the lady members.
>
> "Where's your maw?"
>
> "She's home."
>
> "Where's your paw?"
>
> "He's home."
>
> "Tell 'em 'howdy' fuh me." (April 24, 1944)

None of Wesleyan's all-white student body responded with a letter to the editor in following issues.

Although this joke indicates that some form of racism explicitly existed on campus during the 1940s, an October 8, 1947 page two article, "Students Protest Discrimination Policy Of Normal Restaurant," told how students from both Wesleyan and Illinois State Normal picketed the Pilgrim restaurant in Normal for not admitting black students. "Contrary to what they called 'unfair accusations,' members of the picket force denied that the Pilgrim is being used for a 'goat' while other eating places in this area discriminate," *The Argus* wrote. The picket served its purpose, as black students were admitted to the restaurant soon after, according to 1947-48 editor Bob Holmes ('48).

As postwar prosperity set in across the nation, a number of famous people

appeared in *The Argus,* including Senator J.W. Fulbright, who spoke at Presser Hall in 1946, poet Langston Hughes, who spoke at a Bloomington-Normal community forum in 1945 and Metropolitan Opera star Helen Traubel, who performed at the Scottish Rite Temple in 1946.

An Era of Stability

One positive advancement the newspaper made during the postwar years was with photography, as editors ran anywhere from six to 12 pictures per issue during the era. Photos reached new heights in 1948, according to 1948-49 editor Alice Stanbery ('49). "It's not like we had any more pictures than issues before us, but we just had some wonderful photographers," she said. One of those included Norman Kerr ('52), who now works as the creative director of photography for Eastman Kodak Company.

Between 1947 and 1960, *The Argus* averaged ten pages an issue, with the smallest containing four pages and the largest 20. The newspaper continued to cover campus events, including the opening of the Memorial Student Center's Center Grill in 1947 (it was later renamed the Dug Out), the 1949 campus carnival, the 1951 chest x-ray drive (to fight those nasty winter colds) and the construction of a "new men's dormitory" (Dolan Hall) in 1955.

Stories seldom exceeded five inches, and the shorter treatment allowed editors to print more stories on each page. The front page of the October 7, 1953 *Argus* displayed eight stories: "Fall Enrollment Reaches 700; Figures Above Last Year," "Titan Council Releases Call For New Members," "Football Band Gives Halftime Shows," "Wesleyan Receives Research Grant," "IWU Parents Day Sunday, October 11," "Student Union Selects Cheerleaders for '53-'54," "October 13 Date for Class Primary Elections" and "Anderson to Present Organ Recital." In addition, the front page also had five "Notices," or news briefs, announcing campus information, as well as photographs of the band and cheerleaders—all on a single 11 1/2x16-inch page, which had been implemented by Gummerman Printing in 1937.

Editorials, which appeared on page two, ranged from national subjects like *The Argus*-advocated 1955 nationwide "church attendance crusade" to more campus-related issues like student government decisions, the negative effects of cheating and an occasional plea for new *Argus* staff members. The old, reliable sections—features, music, art, social news and personals—remained largely unchanged from their pre-war days and ran on different pages each week.

Sports news, which dominated as many as three pages during the 1930s, occupied only one page an issue during the 1950s, except, of course, when Wesleyan battled its cross-town rival, Illinois State Normal. With the exception of a few stories denouncing the Korean War, the newspaper had a personality similar to Wally and Beaver Cleaver—wholesome, clean cut and conforming with the conservative nature of the campus. The staff even put in extra hours during the summer to produce issues that, according to former editor Art Schmittler ('54), were mailed to incoming and returning students "to inform

them of registration times, scheduling changes and other types of administrative information."

From 1957-62, feature stories on faculty members and administrators frequently appeared on the inside pages of the newspaper. But two weeks before John F. Kennedy was elected to office, hints of what would eventually turn into student unrest began to appear in *The Argus*. In a special homecoming issue, read by scores of returning alumni, editors gave prominent back-page placement to a story which asked students, "Are You Receiving A Good Education?" One senior English major responded, "sometimes I've learned more during a half hour's conversation [at the Grill] than during a Chapel service or during an hour in class." But even that student added, "Remember—I said **sometimes**."

The 1960s: Wesleyan in its True Light

Like other college newspapers, *The Argus* became caught up in the social turmoil of the late 1960s and early 1970s. A September 19, 1969 editorial proclaimed that

> In the first issue of *The Argus*, Sept. 17, 1894, the staff promised to publish "a paper which will be loyal to the university and to the students," one which would "present our excellent school in the very best light." Today, Sept. 19, 1969, *The Argus* editorial staff seeks to present the university in its **true** light, whether it is functioning well or badly.

And when Allan O. Pfnister, a consultant hired to assist the university in the study and correction of weaknesses, reported that "the basic administrative organization structure has not changed appreciably," the newspaper headlined the story "Consultant reports lack of change" on November 21, 1969. "The divisional organization of the college of liberal arts still lacks definition of function," Pfnister wrote in a report to the administration obtained by *The Argus*. "In a university with such strong professional programs one would expect to find an equally strong liberal arts emphasis."

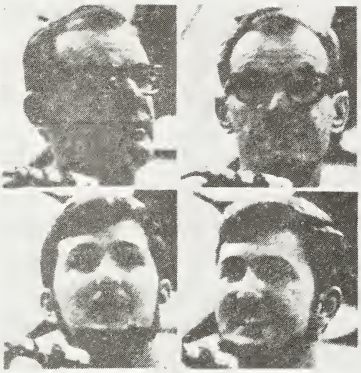
In the spirit of new investigative journalism, all *Argus* stories extended to an average length of 10 inches. Now the average front page carried articles like "Bertholf announces July 1968 retirement," "Tuition rises $175 in new budget" and "Board allots leaves, tenure; advances ranks of seven." On the surface, these stories may seem mundane, but *Argus* staffs did not report tuition increases or decisions made by the Board of Trustees prior to the 1960s. In addition to university news, the newspaper went out of its way to report turbulent issues such as the Vietnam War, civil rights movement and campus protest. *Argus* staff writers tried to bring this national news more relevant by, somehow, tying it to a situation at Wesleyan. (News coverage during the 19 will be examined in greater detail in subsequent chapters.)

In addition to more hard news, the newspaper covered famous people who spoke at Wesleyan, including Senator Everett Dirksen, who spoke at IWU's 109th commencement, astronaut Frank Borman (who laid the cornerstone for Mark Evans Observatory in March, 1969), poet Allen Ginsberg, Vice President

The Argus
ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Volume 76 Bloomington, Illinois 61701, Friday, September 26, 1969 Number 3

Committee coordinates Vietnam moratorium with national move
—see page 5



Presidents Robert S. Eckley and Roy Hankins were joined by Chaplain William White in the Presidents' Convocation Monday. They considered man's flight to the moon and its relation to problems here on earth as well as student solutions, if any.

Presidents, chaplain probe earth problems, solutions

By Kathy Andrews
Copy Editor

Presidents' Convocation topics Monday ranged from the moon to post-intellectualism.

Chaplain William L. White discussed the recent moon landing and its bearing on man's control of his life on earth. President Robert Eckley defined the earth's major problems and their relation to students.

STUDENT SENATE President Roy Hankins confessed that as a senior he has fewer answers to the important philosophical questions than he did as a freshman.

White, basing his speech on the Apollo 11 moon flight, said that man needs to look at himself and his world and try to improve his environment. White said that man "can humanize the planet, if he will."

THE CHAPLAIN suggested that students can help in this "transformation" by taking advantage of their opportunities: "Textbooks, conferences with instructors, extra-curricular activities, worthwhile conversations."

He noted that youth will have to find new ways to answer, "What is truth, justice, man?"

ECKLEY LISTED many of the "frustrations" of students and issued a request to them to help solve problems through "vision and hopes, energy and criticisms."

He expressed his belief that students are more capable of hopes because they have "fewer misconceptions" although among them may often be found a variety of styles.

ECKLEY illustrated this variance by showing the difference between Dr. William Arrowsmith and Col. Frank Borman, who spoke at IWU last spring.

Arrowsmith, Eckley said, typified the intellectuals who "seek specific knowledge and ignore the environment as a whole." But Borman "utilized many unrelated bits of information and . . . assembled them for a flight to the moon."

THE PRESIDENT believes that youth has a chance and the ability to help in problem areas: development, poverty, race, local government and universities, especially in America.

He asked that students aim to improve these areas peacefully because "if we are to have peace, many of us will need to work hard for it, harder than those bent on domination or destruction."

Hankins said that as a freshman he would have been willing to deliver his views about how to solve all the world's problems. But as a senior he has discovered that the answers are not so pat and that he is now not even sure of the questions.

He wondered if any man is even free to think.

Students to raise money

Students now have an opportunity to help raise money for the university through a new development program underway. Intra-university education, special projects and a speaker's bureau are main areas of concern.

A meeting of interested students and members of the development staff took place Tuesday night at which the program was explained and possible ideas for fund-raising projects outlined.

LEE SHORT, director of development, and Jim Ridenour, assistant director of development, presented a sketch of the current IWU development program as to how money is raised and from where it comes.

Roy Hankins, Student Senate president who attended the meeting, said the group discussed the areas in which students could participate. First, Public Relations Commission of senate will establish a development committee under it.

THIS COMMITTEE will help educate the campus as to the development picture and exactly what it entails, possibly through sessions in the housing units.

Second, special projects were discussed. One idea was a telethon in the spring, during which students would call every alumni in the United States, approximately 12,000 persons.

HAVING EACH class work on a specific project was also mentioned.

Finally, a speaker's bureau may be established. Under this program, students would go to alumni meetings, Century Club meetings and other such gatherings in the Midwest and explain IWU from the student's viewpoint, rather than always from the development staff's view.

OTHER institutions across the country have initiated similar projects.

Kentucky Wesleyan College students helped raise $300,000 toward the construction of a new library on their campus.

Indiana University in 1949 formed a Student Foundation which each year sponsors the "Little 500" bicycle race to raise scholarship money. Since the race started in 1951, a total of $217,000 has been awarded.

Trustees to consider revision of voting board membership

Students as voting members of the Board of Trustees might be a possibility if the board accepts a motion passed by SCC devil Senate Sunday.

Mark Sheldon's motion requested the Board of Trustees at its fall 1969 session to consider revising its membership to include students and recent graduates as voting members. It passed 42-30.

SHELDON explained that the action would "broaden student participation in university affairs" as President Robert Eckley said to the faculty confer ence it would supply a "vital infusion of the board member," Sheldon stated.

According to Sheldon's motion, this recommendation will be sent to Eckley, Paul Allison president of the board and the Campus Life Committee of the board.

SUCH A MOVE by universities is not without precedent.

According to information contained in **The Chronicle of Higher Education** of Sept. 15, 1969 Massachusetts recently became the first state to pass a law giving students voting positions on the governing boards of state colleges and universities.

Governors of Connecticut and Maine have appointed students to positions on state boards while Vanderbilt and Princeton Universities, private institutions, have elected students to their boards.

Men – SS cards due

All male students must complete their selective service cards and return them to their local draft boards no later than Oct. 3. Cards are available at the registrar's office.

Deans release drug statement

Dean of students' office released a statement Sept. 16 about drugs.

The statement reads, "students will jeopardize their status as and/or connection with the university if they buy, possess, use, sell, or distribute illegal drugs.

"The university will refer information regarding the possible misuse of drugs to, and will cooperate with federal, state and local authorities in any legal actions resulting from violations of the laws regarding illegal drugs.

"It is unacceptable for students to buy, possess, use, sell, or distribute illegal drugs unless prescribed by a doctor and under medically controlled conditions, both because of potential danger to themselves and others and because of possible illegality.

The statement was issued, according to Dean of Students Jerry Jenson because "the University believes that the use of these drugs is incompatible with the desired educational process and is inconsistent with the purposes of the academic community."

The dean of students' staff developed the statement, and President Robert Eckley approved it in August.

Candidates in class elections prepare for October contests

Petitions for all class officers and freshman class senators were available starting Wednesday at the Main Desk in Memorial Center.

They are due Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 5 p.m. A $5 deposit is required when a petition is taken out.

PLATFORMS for freshman senators must be turned into the **Argus** office by 7 p.m. Tuesday. They must be no longer than 250 words, typed triple-spaced, 65 spaces to the line and in duplicate.

Senatorial candidates are to sign up for an interview with the **Argus** editorial staff on the sheet posted on the office door. Interviews are Tuesday, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

CANDIDATES must be in good standing with the university and not on academic or social probation. Deposits will be returned if all the candidate's campaign material is removed within 24 hours after the closing of the polls in the final elections.

Each candidate or his representative will be required to attend a pre-election meeting of all candidates 8 p.m., Sept. 30, in the Cartwright Room. Failure to attend will disqualify the candidate from the election.

ALL CANDIDATES may begin campaigning, according to the announced rules, after this meeting.

Freshman candidates will also have an opportunity to speak before their class members at 8 p.m., Oct. 2, in the Main Lounge.

Primary elections will be Oct. 7 and final elections will take place Oct. 14.

A typical late 1960s front page.

Hubert H. Humphrey, civil rights activist Fred Hampton, social reformist and author Michael Harrington, and poet Gwendolyn Brooks. The paper publicized campus concerts featuring popular sixties groups such as the Shirelles, Peter and Gordon, Spanky and Our Gang and The Flying Burrito Brothers.

Columns written under the pseudonyms "The Gadfly," and "Charles Martel" allowed students to anonymously voice opinions about the administration, student government, women's hours policy, the Greek system and alcohol policy. By 1969, an outside subscription to *The Argus* cost $5—only a $4 increase since 1894.

In 1973, *The Argus* survived another major change, with editor Thomas St. John ('75) reporting that a "lack of trees" and a Canadian railroad strike resulted in *The Argus* switching from traditional newsprint to more expensive, high-quality paper. Even *The Pantagraph* "felt the pinch of the strike this summer when they almost ran out of paper," according to St. John's editorial. His prediction that *The Argus* would probably never come out on newsprint again held true through the Gummerman era.

During the late 1970s, *The Argus* covered the university's surprisingly smooth implementation of co-ed living units. After the university "experimented" with co-ed housing at Gulick Hall in 1974-75, the March 19, 1976 *Argus* announced that Dodds Hall, formerly a men's dormitory, would become Wesleyan's other co-ed living unit in the 1976-77 school year. "No one got upset with the Gulick Hall experiment," *The Argus* wrote, adding that Dodds' eight-person suite living units were even more "conducive to the housing of both men and women" than Gulick's regular two-person rooms. Dodds and Gulick remain IWU's only co-ed dorms as of the 1993-94 school year.

In the 1980s, The Argus *was "Devoted to the concept of free press."*

The 1980s and 1990s: Trying to Break the Bubble

Editors organized the eight to 16-page issues of the 1980s *Argus* in the same way as C. Virgil Martin's 1931-32 staff. In addition to running campus-centered stories on Student Senate meetings, faculty meetings, concerts, theatre performances,

campus speakers and construction, the paper perpetuated the "Wesleyan bubble" theory—"that sense of isolation from the rest of the civilized world. . . . [I]n Bloomington-Normal there's nowhere to go, nothing to do, and everyone goes to sleep at 8 p.m."(September 13, 1991). Given that the greatest percentage of Wesleyan's student body hailed from the Chicago area in the 1980s, it's no shock that students have felt trapped in Wesleyan's stable and considerably less urban environment.

The Argus
Bush's policies scrutinized during debate
Election '92
Racism seminar stresses acceptance appreciation among ethic groupings
Women's issues separate party platforms
In this issue:
The Argus *of the 1990s*.

The center spread—a series of related articles with photographs or graphics in the middle of the newspaper—gave editors the opportunity to break the Wesleyan bubble with expanded national and international news stories since the early 1980s. The February 15, 1985 *Argus* featured a center spread on South African apartheid with articles on three speakers who lectured at Wesleyan and Illinois State University during the week. "The Black population may have little chance against the South African authorities," wrote staff writer Kelly Gaskins ('88). "The police force which numbers some 47,000 and the Army containing 85,000 have succeeded in maintaining control over some 23 million blacks."

Likewise, staff writer Andrette Brown's ('89) March 3, 1989 speaker story on civil rights author James Meredith told of his 1962 struggle to enroll at the University of Mississippi. His personal struggle escalated into a "mini-civil war between 400 federal marshals and some 17,000 national guardsmen called to the scene by president John F. Kennedy." In other parts of his address, Meredith advised that "blacks must take control of their families, schools and communities" if they are ever to achieve racial equality. Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to Congress, related a similar story of overcoming racial barriers when she spoke at the 1988 President's Convocation.

News editor John Snyder ('91) reported Illinois Governor Jim Edgar's speech at the 1991 IWU Founders' Day Convocation. The newly elected Edgar

focused "chiefly on the importance of education in Illinois and his intent to be 'the education governor'" (February 22, 1991). Edgar also said that increased educational opportunities could be reached "'without a lot of extra money,' perceiving the advancement of education as a 'common goal for a common good.'"

During this era, the "Opinion" pages mirrored the front pages, offering added perspective. Inside pages contained the "Arts and Entertainment" section, which included book and movie reviews, while "Sports" took over the back two to three pages of every issue. Feature articles during this period reflect the national pre-occupation with self-improvement and extended equal rights in all areas. Some topics covered diet tips, stress management, Habitat for Humanity projects, bulimia, and Black Student Union activities.

The evolution of *The Argus* from a literary journal to a newspaper, and then to a newspaper that covered both campus and national issues, has reflected a change in campus personality from rah-rah to real world. Even *Argus* subscription rate increases have reflected the economic signs of the times with costs tripling in the past 25 years. (Costs rose to $8 in 1981, $14 in 1984 and stand at $21 for the 1993-94 school year.) Despite five wars, one depression and a national paper shortage, the newspaper has not ceased publication for 100 years. Love it or hate it, *The Argus* has been, and will always be, watching and reporting Wesleyan news.

CHAPTER 3

Front Page News

The front page serves as a newspaper's billboard, using its content and style to catch readers' attention and pull them into the inside pages. But from the very beginning, finding front-page news hasn't been easy for *Argus* editors. An 1898 editorial complained that "The editors of the different departments have at times found it very difficult to secure material to fill the columns of the paper, let alone procuring such material that would not only interest its readers but also add credit to the paper itself" (December 1).

The fact that *The Argus* has not been the most earth-shaking college newspaper reflects the stable nature of the Wesleyan campus. As late as the 1950s, "Wesleyan was a lot smaller and was more of a family operation"—including *The Argus*, according to 1952-53 editor Jim Ridenour ('54). Alice Stanbery, 1948-49 editor, added, "We didn't have any controversies with anybody, but then again we weren't really radical individuals."

No News Is Good News

Other editors and the front pages themselves confirm that until the mid-1960s, no *Argus* staff was terribly radical or reform-oriented. Until then, much of *The Argus* front-page matter was informational, including administrative pronouncements on how students should behave, when they were to attend classes, and when tuition was to be paid. Student writers even praised the value of listening to administrators, as this May 15, 1899 article on chapel conduct illustrates: "It is not only discourteous to the faculty, but it is also an indication of bad breeding for any one so to conduct himself during the chapel hour as to make himself obnoxious and a nuisance to those about him."

For all their concern, editors from the 1890s followed in the tradition of pre-*Argus* publications, devoting their front pages exclusively to literary criticism, translations, poems and scientific essays. If it was hard to find material, it was only because the material was scholarly and undoubtedly took time to research and write—as with Professor W.A. Heidel's essay on "The Poems of William Watson," which appeared in the January 14, 1895 issue, or the French translation of "The Pope's Mule" that greeted readers on the front page of the March 25, 1895 *Argus*. Even more striking were two issues published that year which devoted the entire front page to a single poem.

In attempts to fill the front page with newsworthy events, editors have, at

times, opted for the lighter side of coverage. Fluff articles on the news pages appeared from the beginning of *The Argus,* when editors chose to print stories that were more interesting than influential.

Early front pages emphasized Greek life and social news, featuring such headlines as "Silence is last straw in pledge life" and "Barbecue successful as new innovation for homecoming." But the social scene was not limited to the Greek system. The biggest competition was based not on Greek/independent relations, but on class loyalty. In 1904, editors chose to amuse their readers by reporting freshmen initiation rituals in "Shear the Freshmen." When "a large crowd of upper classmen assembled to act as a reception committee for the Freshmen," the lower classmen were hardly receptive. Upperclassmen not only shaved the freshmen's heads, but also forced them to sing, dance and utterly humiliate themselves. One eyewitness told *The Argus*:

> I was caught and carried along in the jam and finally landed dazed and blinking at the top of the chapel stairs. I saw a mass of moving figures in the dim light and saw Brian holding the center of the stage while a husky bruiser gloated over his prey and menacingly wielded a large pair of sheep shears with which he proceeded to remove his raven locks in a manner that showed former training along a tonsorial line. 'Aw don't fellows' pleaded the victim, but his words were greeted with a hoarse and grating laughter and only added fuel to the already brightly glowing class spirit. (November 4, 1904)

Another article in the same issue described the desperate flight of a hazed freshman who was seen "at a clip seldom seen in this region where a ten second man is a rarity." The young man apparently had been "assailed" by an upperclassman on the way to a freshman mixer and kept running until he was spotted in the nearby town of Danvers.

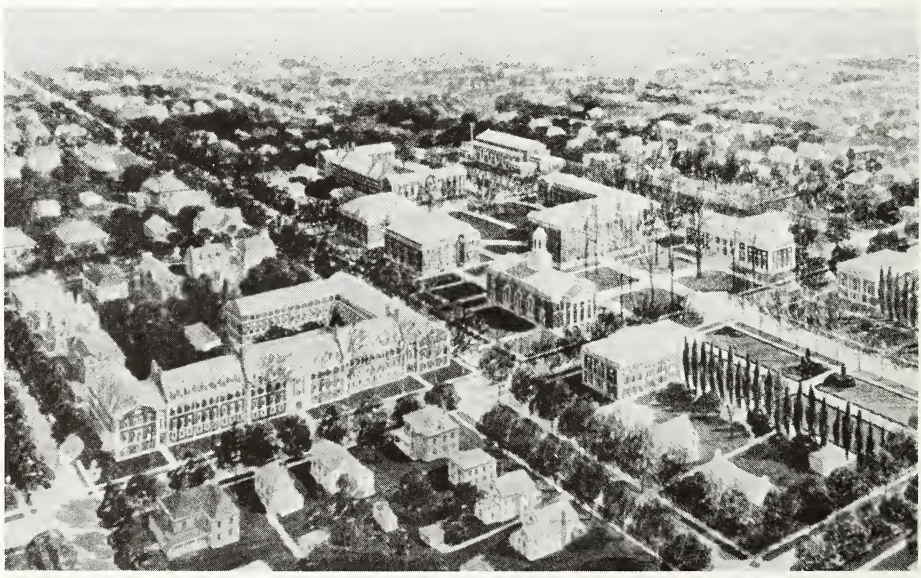
Freshmen seemed to carry the heaviest burden when it came to social traditions. The November 9, 1910 front page announced the results of yet another freshmen defeat in "The Sophomore Colors Still Wave." The contest began when the sophomore class placed its class colors at the top of the university's flagpole. Freshmen would then try to climb the pole and destroy the sophomore flag while sophomores tried to pull their rivals off the pole. The senior class acted as referee. *The Argus* was at the scene: "Time and again the Freshmen had a man on the pole only to see him pulled down again by the struggling Sophs. It was no dress suit affair not yet a child's game. Few came out of the struggle with clothing intact and many had to borrow overcoats to wear home."

If nothing else, *The Argus* was consistent with its front-page fluff articles through the next decade, often printing marriage announcements and day-to-day reminders on page one. The November 24, 1915 edition proclaimed, "Thanksgiving: Turkey Day Will Soon Be Here" (as reported, "Some folks have already enjoyed that delightful olfactory sensation that is the direct result of aromatic attacks . . .") Next to it ran an untitled article that described yet another social event:

> Ever since the beginning of the school year the dorm girls have talked hopelessly of owning a Victrola, and when they have given up the idea in despair and endeavored to find substitutes, always have they failed in a 'supply of male voices . . .'" But one night last week, the missing link turned up for four worthy gentlemen serenaded the inhabitants of Kemp Hall for about half an hour with various and sundry popularans.

Later, such lighter articles were replaced with news of World War I. However, after the war the focus of front-page stories returned to campus events and college trends. Headlines from the December 16, 1926 front page captured the carefree nature of college life in the Roaring Twenties, with this news flash: "No Cause To Mourn For Bobbed Heads." It was front page news on November 18, 1926 that "Silk football pants are the new departure in grid-iron regalia. Head coach Jimmy Phelan at Purdue University invented these new sheik breeches after developing the idea during the 1925 season."

An October, 1924 article advertised a mixer which involved boxing and wrestling but warned that "here is one time when the women are absolutely tabooed," while a 1929 article, "Freshmen Are Too Cocky For Good Of Common People," maintained the polarized class structure of previous years. More campus traditions hit the front page in the 1920s but, according to *The Argus*, none were as popular as the "pajama trot." As a celebrated homecoming tradition, students marched in their pajamas to the Bloomington courthouse where they chanted the Wesleyan fight song. This must not have seemed too unusual, however, since the only reason it appeared in the October 16, 1929 issue was because that year's crowd conducted their march in the pouring rain.



"The campus that never was" (1921), a popular graphic for Homecoming issues.

While more newsworthy articles began to appear in the 1930s, headlines such as "Come one and all (dateless) to Xmas dance" and "Argus staff meeting to be held today" still managed to find their way onto page one. The front page was also used as a space filler in 1933. In the February 16 edition, a student poll which began on page two was jumped to (continued on) the front page. The poll asked students how the campus could improve.

Wesleyan students weren't the only ones who provided trivial news for the front page. The "dog days" of *Argus* reporting became literally that. As relief from the Depression/war news, the life of a fraternity mascot captured the heart of the campus. Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) German shepherd Alpha Deuteron (Alphy) appeared in *The Argus* a total of four times—twice on page one. Alphy first gained fame in spring 1937 when President Harold W. McPherson ('06) presented her a Doctor of Caninology degree on the steps of Hedding Hall. Alphy attended classes by following FIJI members to class and sitting through lectures. Only one other such doctorate in Illinois existed at the time. After 13 years of living in the FIJI house, Alphy dislocated her hip and had to be put to sleep. Her obituary, which appeared in the September 22, 1943 *Argus*, took up almost one-quarter of the front page. The obituary fondly remembered when "at the mention of 'Sigma Chi' Alphy would tear down to the basement and hunt for rats."

The May 4, 1949 front page is a quintessential example of one of *The Argus'* many "slow news days." The most captivating items on the page were a poem describing "senior ditch day" and a picture of newly-elected *Argus* editor Bob Gorman ('50) and business manager Vernon Prenzler ('50) with their feet on a

Page 8 THE ARGUS — Illinois Wesleyan University, Friday, March 8, 1974

Some men of Sigma Chi Fraternity, which houses some of IWU's finest athletes, indulge in the latest campus outdoor sporting craze. Here, they were providing entertainment for the women of Munsell Wednesday night in classic Greek tradition. (See story on page one.)

The naked truth: streakers at IWU.

desk. The lead story, "Androcles To Meet Lion This Week—Duell, Brooks Lead Cast For Three Nights," reported the dates, times and names of cast members of the weekend production. More insignificant news came in the story "Announce Activities For Mother's Day," which featured a picture of Magill Hall counselor Mrs. Ralph Williams and a student to whom she played mother throughout the year.

In 1974, outbreaks of streaking overran the campus. In the March 8, 1974 story "Streakers make a hit," *The Argus* devoted a large portion of page one (including photos) to a group of Sigma Chi fraternity members who ran naked across the quad. However, the Sigs were not the campus' only group to take it all off. During one of the fraternity's nude chorus line acts that faced Munsell Hall, women danced naked in blackened dorm windows while five nude independents ran past the dorm and eventually disappeared behind the Sheean Library. One spectator told *The Argus*, "It's better than goldfish."

Other front-page events may not have been as eye-catching as the streakers, but they provided an alternative to hard news. "Two girls are locked in room" (October 1, 1976) described two Munsell residents who, after a "disappointing" biology quiz, slammed their door so hard that it caused a vacuum and jammed the door. After 45 minutes the women were freed when Munsell residents pushed open the door.

The issue closest to April 1 has never been a slow news day for *The Argus*. Editors printed special April Fools' issues from the 1920s to the late 1980s, when editors feared such issues would be randomly chosen by the Illinois College Press Association for annual evaluations. April Fools' issues traditionally featured random articles that mocked students, faculty and events. The 1925 issue announced a campus takeover by fleas:

> The other day three men were seen doing some very amazing things; some of the things were such that we can't speak of them, but one in particular should be mentioned so that our frosh won't start doing the same thing . . . [There students] had returned to the days of their monkey ancestors and were searching their craniums for fleas . . . ! According to all that was observed, the three were enjoying the process very much, shouting with glee and jumping around quite often.

Other headlines in later years announced a meeting between IWU President Merrill J. Holmes and President Harry S. Truman, the merger of Wesleyan and ISU and "Pfeiffer couples pair up; IWU tries co-ed living." April Fools' issues usually changed the newspaper's title as well. *The Angus* appeared in the mid-1980s and reported a violent cow riot. *The Arcacia* (1984) mocked the cafeteria, the Greek system and selected administrators.

"Hard" News: Harder to Come By

Of course, the history of *The Argus* has not been solely one of slow news days. From 1914 through 1946, the newspaper reported Wesleyan's reaction to the World Wars and Great Depression. It also reported significant campus events, including the Hedding Hall fire and a plan to move the campus from

AMIE CHAPEL TO BE SECOND CASINO

APRIL FOOL

THE ARGUS

SEES, KNOWS, TELLS ALL

WESLEYAN MEN TO TOUR EUROPE ON BICYCLES

Fifteen Lives Are Lost in Observatory Fire

Robbers Steal Hard-Won Coin From President of University

By Ye Olde Scribe

(Continued on page five)

TYRANNY IS ATTEMPTED BY AHLENII

(Continued on page five)

NEW MUSIC SCHOOL BUILDING

The above picture of the new music school is made possible because of the loss of $80,000 by Dr. Davidson. It embodies many features which will make it the best of its type in the United States. Cut is continued on page 5.

FACULTY WILL SPONSOR ALL-SCHOOL DANCE IN GYM

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER FOUNTAIN OF BRAINS

Still is Discovered in Raid; Whiskey Wasted on Ground

Rainy Days Predicted For Illinois Wesleyan

AMIE CHAPEL WILL BE AMUSEMENT PALACE

Music School Will Be Of Brick Construction

Lindy Guilty of Age

Wins Prize as Best-Dressed Man on Wesleyan Campus

Heinous Charges

Insulted Miller

PROTECTION

This fleet of armed warriors goes on duty in the Argus room today

STUNT SHOW PLANS SHOW IMPROVEMENT

Some Acts to Appear in Stunt Show

WINNER OF BEAUTY CONTEST

BASEBALL SEASON OPENS WITH FIFTEEN CONFERENCE WINS

For the 1928 April Fool's issue, editors used a blank space to suggest when the new music building would be built.

Bloomington. During the 1960s and 1970s, editors focused on Student Senate politics and debates over such things as women's curfew hours and the alcohol policy. A grade-changing scandal even rocked the campus during the early 1980s. National events covered by *The Argus* included the civil rights movement, campus protest, national political races and homosexual rights.

Campus construction and acquisition of new property have traditionally been big with *Argus* readers. That explains the show of emotion when the April 27, 1906 issue reported that philanthropist Andrew Carnegie donated $30,000 to complete a $100,000 campaign to build and equip a new science hall. The campus responded with "the greatest demonstration of enthusiasm ever seen in Bloomington. . . . The parade was five or six blocks long and the enthusiasm shown made people realize the interest that has been awakened for Wesleyan."

Another campus improvement story, which appeared on October 19, 1911 told how university women were elated at the acquisition of a new women's dormitory—Kemp Hall:

> It has long been a cherished idea . . . to have a place where the girls would feel like they were at home and not simply shut up in a prison to be watched over continuously. . . . The interior is finished in about thirty different kinds of wood and everything else is in perfect keeping with elaborate decorations. . . . It is heated by city heat and lighted by electricity. Other conveniences are the electric elevator; . . . electric ventilators in every room; speaking tubes, intercommunicating telephones, and dumbwaiters.

Despite the conveniences of Kemp, which the university proclaimed on postcards to be "the finest women's dormitory in all the country," an April 1919 front-page article told how a group of devoted alumni combated an administrative plan to move "dear old Wesleyan" to Springfield, Illinois. In "Wesleyan Remains At Bloomington," *The Argus* reported that a group of alarmed alumni met on April 21, 1919 in order to discuss the plan and form the Wesleyan Forward Movement Association, which they hoped would keep the campus permanently in Bloomington. According to *The Argus*, alumni cited the financial generosity of Bloomington-Normal and the general dislike of any other location as reasons for keeping Wesleyan in Bloomington:

> Whereas, So much hatred and ill-will would be caused by the attempted removal that the old Wesleyan would be practically destroyed, and there is no class that is so interested nor would be so vitally affected as its alumni by its removal; such action would mean to the alumni the loss of their alma mater, and would arouse undying resentment in their hearts.

The alumni statement was passed on to the Board of Trustees the following day. After a debate which lasted over 10 hours, the board chose to keep the university in Bloomington by a vote of 19 to 7.

However, according to university records, the administration neglected to inform *The Argus* of the financial deal that kept Wesleyan in Bloomington. Missing from *The Argus* report was an account of how the Board of Trustees met

with the Bloomington Association of Commerce after the Forward Movement debate. The association agreed to raise $600,000 for Wesleyan, provided the trustees would leave the university where it was. Eventually, the association raised $690,000 for Wesleyan's benefit, allocating the money for operating fees, the purchase of adjoining property and a new gymnasium. The final condition was met when the cornerstone of Memorial Gym was laid on November 5, 1921.

Alumni may have been able to keep Wesleyan in Bloomington, but they could not save its law school, as page two of the October 1, 1925 *Argus* reported: "For the first time in fifty years, there is no freshman class in the law school of the Illinois Wesleyan University this year. . . ." The article described law school secretary W.B. Leach's plea for the school's 800 alumni to donate $100,000 so that "one of the most famous and most important colleges of the Wesleyan" could continue. However, the May 13, 1927 front-page told the campus that year's graduating seniors would be the last to receive Bachelor of Laws diplomas from Illinois Wesleyan. "Law School Ceases To Exist With New Higher Standards" added that the Association of American Law Schools discredited IWU's law school because it did not have enough full-time faculty or enough volumes in its library.

During the 1920s, information that would have been considered page-one news in other decades was often run on the inside pages. When two students' cars collided at Graham and Evans streets, resulting in two cracked windshields, bent axles and broken wheels, *The Argus* reported it on page two. And while "pyramid style" reporting was developed during the Civil War, *Argus* reporters saved the most important details for last: "A. Bunch, Bill Fitz, Charles Burgess and Graydon Boyd were in the car and several of them were cut about the face and hands with flying glass. Miss Angier was unhurt" (November 5, 1924).

One week later, the paper placed a robbery story on page four, reporting that

> Miss Ann Miller awoke shortly after midnight last Thursday to find there was a man in her room. Reaching out her hand suddenly, she caught him by the hair and then fully awake, she turned loose a feminine whoop that roused the rest of the Lodge. After the yell, the marauder made his getaway through a window. (November 12, 1924)

The newspaper added that the intruder escaped with two dolars, and, "that based on the woolly feel of the burglar's hair, it must have been a negro," according to Miss Miller. The claim was never substantiated in *The Argus.*

When the stock market crashed in October 1929, hard financial times were reflected not in stories of Black Monday and the Great Depression, but in an article which asked every IWU student and local business to "donate" a minimum of $25 in addition to their $200 per year tuition fee. Coverage in *The Argus* relied on guilt to get students to pay:

> Wesleyan's need is sufficiently serious to cause every friend of the school to come to its support at this time, with heroism and genuine sacrifice . . . The responsibility of meeting the great need of the Wesleyan must be felt by the student body also whom the institution most directly

> serves, and whom the realization of the goal of the million dollar drive will most directly benefit.

It was all part of Wesleyan's county-wide fundraising campaign with a $1 million goal. Deficits had been increasing since 1924, after the university's annual operating funds dried up, and financial woes increased when the permanent endowment dropped too low to pay day-to-day costs. Not only did *The Argus* appeal to the student body when the story was first announced, but editor Madeleine Anderson Cutright ('31) wrote a front-page personal appeal to the students in the next issue under the headline "Wesleyan will!—Subscribe 100 Percent!" By December 1931, the fund totaled just over $548,000.

The endowment rose another $150,042 when Wesleyan merged with Hedding Seminary and Central Illinois Female College in 1930. Hedding College had been established in 1857—seven years after Wesleyan's founding—in Abington, Illinois. The December 18, 1930 *Argus* reported that the college could not recover from its own financial crisis and ran out of money to pay repair charges and professor salaries. Wesleyan sold Hedding's campus to an all-male military school and acquired Hedding's endowment and 400 alumni.

Despite fundraising efforts and the Hedding acquisition, the Depression eventually caught up with Wesleyan. While students in 1930 were asked to donate an extra $25, times got so bad by 1932 that some students were allowed to pay a portion of their tuition with eggs and sheep. The top story for that year, "Wesleyan Accepts Farm Produce for Tuition," explained that the university's Produce for Tuition system allowed farmers to exchange produce and livestock at more than fair market value for tuition, room and board. Newspapers across the country went hog-wild over Wesleyan's "desire to help the youth of the Corn Belt." The *Chicago Tribune*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and WGN Radio in Chicago all publicized the unique tuition plan reported in *The Argus.*

The only Produce for Tuition program in the country also led to Wesleyan's first appearance on the silver screen. The arrival of Hollywood's Paramount News Corporation on registration day in 1932 turned the quad into a trading post, complete with bales of hay and an occasional cow. *The Argus* reported that a local theater reserved its seats for Wesleyan's 531 students and described the nation's first filmed glimpse of Wesleyan:

> All kinds of farm products were on hand. There were cows, pigs, sheep, chickens, a truck of oats, a truck full of cream cans. Someone had even managed to find two or three rabbits and Mr. Crabtree [Wesleyan's business manager] was willing to accept them.

The final scene showed a student chasing a stray pig across the street, catching it and then applying it to his tuition. The film played to an estimated 25 million people in 5,000 theaters nationwide.

But Produce for Tuition wasn't just a publicity stunt. Ralph E. McCoy ('37), editor of the 1936-37 *Argus*, recalled that Wesleyan did all it could to help students, and tried to foster the kind of carefree college atmosphere that once exist-

John Dickinson of Abingdon is coming to Wesleyan even though ready cash is scarce. He was the first to take advantage Illinois Wesleyan university's offer to accept produce in lieu of cash. He is shown in the truck, having been assisted by Titan Martin Hammutt, at the right. At the left is Mr. Trout, truck driver

The only Produce for Tuition program in the nation (1932). Note the humorous typographical error at the end of the caption.

ed. "Almost everyone had some sort of campus job to pay for tuition," he said. Charlotte Fitzhenry Robling, editor from 1937-38, added, "By the time my class got to Wesleyan, we were used to hard times. The Depression didn't affect me that much because half of my tuition [which was then approximately $200 per year] was already paid for, since I was editor."

One benefit to come from the Depression was reported in the November 28, 1934 *Argus*, which announced, "Wesleyan Is Now Represented On The Air, To present five hours each week." Although WJBC-Radio had been on the air since 1924, *The Argus* reported that the radio station's move to Illinois Wesleyan was a "purely commercial proposition." WJBC began broadcasting from the third floor of Old North Hall, according to the front-page article, though Wesleyan did not receive any air time until November 14. On the daily "Wesleyan Hour," students chosen by WJBC from the School of Music and the College of Liberal Arts were "to bring worth while things from the Wesleyan campus to all alumni and friends of the university and to all who may be interested in what we are doing here." (Wesleyan's own radio station, WESN, began broadcasting on February 28, 1972, according to *The Argus*.)

Another media-related highlight came when Martha Gellhorn, a "brilliant young American novelist and journalist" who would later become Ernest Hemingway's third wife, visited campus the week of January 12, 1938. Gellhorn, who started her reporting career after quitting college at age 18, "described vividly her experiences in the Spanish war zone to one of the largest

audiences of the lecture season when she spoke at Presser Hall last Thursday evening."

Argus front-page contents changed as World War II consumed America. Suddenly the newspaper was full of interesting subject matter and solid facts. Even campus coverage was colored by the war. Besides the ever-present patriotic theme (an American flag appeared on the front page every issue), editors reported stories on "Reserve Men! See That Papers Are In Order," "Army, Navy, And Marines Recruit 48 In Recent Drive" and "Vacation Is Changed Due To War."

With the newspaper already deep in war coverage, another catastrophe struck Wesleyan. Hedding Hall, the second oldest building on the campus, burned the night of January 9, 1943. Suddenly, a newspaper that had once found itself searching for hard news was being bombarded with it on all sides—Strangely enough, the Hedding Hall story has been reprinted so many times in *Argus* issues that it has become a part of campus folklore.

Extra! The Rise and Fall of Hedding Hall

Built in 1870, Hedding Hall served as the major campus landmark, housing offices, alumni files, museum-quality specimens, laboratories, a new health department, 10 classrooms, Amie Chapel and irreplaceable trophies. The university originally named the building Old Main because of its general usefulness, but changed the name when Illinois Wesleyan acquired Hedding College.

Seventy-two years of history went up in flames because of faulty electrical wiring on that Saturday night in January, and *The Argus* was on the scene from the time flames shot up through the roof until little was left but smoldering ashes. The newspaper provided students, administrators, alumni and townspeople with a final record of the old building, under the editorship of Beth Mackey Stiffler ('43) and with the photographic talent of Don Hibbard ('45). The event prompted such massive publicity that *The Argus* interrupted its usual publication schedule to print a Hedding Hall "Extra" on Sunday, January 10, 1943—the second of two *Argus* extras in history. (The first commemorated the 1910 football team's state championship.)

"[Printer and mentor] Bernie Gummerman approached us with the idea of producing an extra issue about the fire, and the whole staff spent all day and night on Sunday working," Stiffler said. Fifty-one contributors funded the extra issue by means of a special ad deal arranged by business manager Don Freese ('43). Thanks to the extra, "not one student missed class on Monday," Stiffler said, because *The Argus* worked with the administration to locate and report temporary locations for classes.

According to the front-page article "Hedding Gone: Historic Hall in Ruins," some 4,500 spectators gathered to watch the fire that started on the second floor and spread rapidly. The spectacular flames allowed Hibbard to collect a vast array of photos which still tell the frightening reality of the fire 60 years later.

The January 10, 1943 *Pantagraph* reported that the blaze was already out of

Up in flames.

control when the fire department arrived at 7 p.m. The fire consumed over 200,000 gallons of water from Bloomington fire department water mains that struggled to maintain pressure. Adding to the nightmare was a strong wind which "blew sparks and flaming embers a full block east of the building."

The scramble to collect items from the inferno almost cost Wesleyan more than money, momentos and memories. "There's a fascinating story I wish we could have printed and photographed, but we were working so hard," Mackey Stiffler said. "I was standing in front of the north side entrance after the fire had really got going, when, all of a sudden, Professor Ferguson came out carrying his books. The second after he came out, the beam above the door came crashing to the ground. I'm glad he made it out of there alive. He loved his books so much, he had to rescue them."

Friday's issue following the Hedding fire allowed students to rise above their initial shock and express their emotion in the "Hedding Fire Souvenir Edition." The fire proved to be a journalistic windfall, since it spurred news and features to which an entire campus could relate. Seldom has an issue of *The Argus* been greeted with such anticipation. The souvenir issue reported not only the facts of the fire, but the loss experienced by faculty and students:

> With the crumbling of the pillars of Amie Chapel went a lifetime of memories, tradition and customs built by men who were pioneers in a great venture. Each creaking step of Hedding could have told a story; every nook and cranny could have revealed human secrets. Through Hedding Hall each day stalked the ghosts of war, hardships, romance,

VICTORY BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

THE ARGUS EXTRA!

Illinois Wesleyan University

VOL. 49 Z-134 BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1943 EXTRA

HEDDING GONE
HISTORIC HALL IN RUINS

Students Help Save Records

Historic Hedding Hall was consumed by flames Saturday night at a cost estimated to be $300,000 to Illinois Wesleyan University.

Electric wiring is reported to be the cause of the fire which soon raged out of control. The blaze started at the east side of the second floor of the building.

Students, faculty, and bystanders, directed by Dr. Merrill J. Holmes, carried records and office materials from the burning building. Day shift policemen, auxiliary policemen, and soldiers from the Midwest Motive Trades Institute helped to keep the 4,500 spectators back from the blaze.

Much credit goes to Henry Petrzilka, captain-elect of the 1943 football team, who attempted to blot out the flames on the second floor with a fire extinguisher. The blaze was already out of control when he tried to extinguish the flames from the blazing stage of the Little Theatre on the second floor.

The Powell museum, alumni files and records, more than $1,000 worth of equipment in the new health department, furnishings for approximately 10 classrooms, office equipment, more than 30 typewriters, color slides and other material in the art department, old Amie chapel, and college trophies were losses to the University.

Personal losses were suffered by Miss Constance Ferguson and her father, Dr. Wilbert Ferguson, who lost more than 1000 volumes of their book collection, including some French, German, Italian, Greek, Spanish, Gothic, and Hebrew literature. Many were books that Professor Ferguson had used in the 50 years he taught at Illinois Wesleyan.

Prof. William T. Beadles lost many pamphlets which he knows can never be replaced. Dean Leona Wise Felsted lost many records and books, as did Dr. W. E. Shaw, Dr. M. J. Holmes, Dean William B. Wallis, Dr. Lowell B. Hazzard, and Dr. Mildred Hunt. All teachers lost personal equipment. The alumni office lost records and files of members. The book store suffered a loss estimated at over $1200.

Approximately half of the loss on the first floor, but duplicates was covered by insurance on the are retained in the insurance offices carrying the policies.

1870--1943

In Appreciation

Wesleyan has many friends! When down and out, friends mean much — this old thought was never more true than this past weekend at Wesleyan.

Illinois State Normal, Wesleyan's sister University, has extended the use of extra chairs and desks. Though rivals on the football field, and in general fetes, Illinois State Normal proves its quality of friendship.

Grace Methodist church has asked the faculty to hold classes in its rooms. The written invitation came to Dr. Shaw Sunday.

Fraternities, sororities, many townspeople, and faculty members have spoken their willingness to open their homes to any classes of students who wish to meet there.

In a dark hour, friends have "come through."

Heat For Chapel And Library

Every student of Illinois Wesleyan owes a debt of gratitude to Gordon Rubenking, Henry Petrzilka, Art Roeder, and John Kleinsteiber for their work in repairing the heating system Sunday afternoon.

They cleaned the debris away from the pipes (incidentally salvaging a great deal of Home Ec equipment), and checked all the elbows and joints in 150 feet of pipe. Then they turned on the steam and carefully checked it.

The heating systems of Presser and the Library were dependent upon this stretch of pipe running through Hedding Hall.

Girls Salvage Home Ec Equipment

From the charred ruins of Hedding Hall, Miss Saar directed the removal of Home Ec kitchen equipment—from the only room not totally destroyed in the entire building.

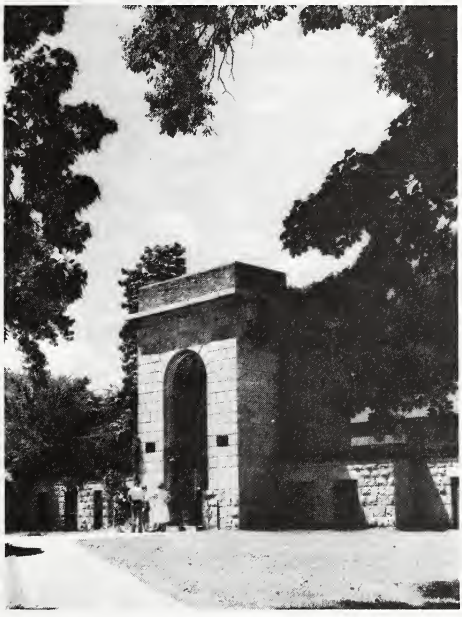
A refrigerator, a gas water heater, four ovens, silverware, and drawers containing pie pans, lemon squeezers, sieves, etc. were moved to Linley Lodge, where the Home Ec department is to be located.

The second "Extra" in Argus *history.*

study, achievement, and depression . . . from the lives of those who have gone before. Yes, the building of Hedding is gone!

The inside pages of the souvenir issue included a photo essay by Hibbard (photos which also appeared in *The Pantagraph*), poems dedicated to Hedding and an article which not only carried a feeling of nostalgia, but reminded readers of the world's problems beyond Wesleyan. Staff writer Margot Smith Lucas ('44) likened the sentiments of a college campus struggling to overcome a destructive setback to the perseverance of those fighting World War II. "We can better realize the spirit of England when they put out their signs, 'Business as Usual,' after a night of bombing," Lucas wrote. "In the same manner we do back up President Shaw 100 percent when he issued the statement, 'Classes as Usual' on Monday morning."

That following March, the university razed the building, leaving only the foundation and the lower level to serve as Duration Hall (renamed to express the "power" of that portion of Hedding to survive the fire). In 1965, despite an *Argus* editorial pleading the university to save Duration Hall, the university destroyed it in order to create a "roomier" quad.



What remained of Hedding Hall was renamed Duration.

Reagan Visit and Homecomings Highlight the 1950s

The postwar era saw an *Argus* that focused on campus news once again. Articles acted as a social calendar, with few interviews or quotes. For example, when *The Argus* announced that jazz great Count Basie would perform at Wesleyan to kick off "Greek Week" in 1958, it ran an introductory article describing his popular talent and lifestyle. But when he actually entertained the Wesleyan crowd, no picture or story ran in the paper. The same held true for composer Aaron Copland and singer Johnny Mathis. This trend of announcing but not covering events continued through the mid-1960s. The newspaper also placed emphasis on IWU's growing population, offering such stories as "Centennial Class Of 267 Largest In History" (May 24, 1950) and "IWU Fastest Enrollment Growth In State" (November 17, 1954).

Had editors known that Ronald Reagan would serve two terms as President of the United States in the 1980s, the 1955 article, "Ronald Reagan Tells TKE of

Communist Infiltration," might have appeared on the front page. Unfortunately, hindsight is 20/20, and the information on Reagan's Homecoming visit to the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity house was relegated to page eight. Although Reagan—a TKE in his days at Eureka College—had not yet entered the political world, he expressed "McCarthyist" views when asked if communists were invading Hollywood. The following article, reprinted from the October 26, 1955 *Argus*, reflects both the journalistic and social climate in which it was written.

Ronald Reagan Tells TKE Of Communistic Infiltration

The members of Tau Kappa Epsilon were honored and privileged Thursday night by a brief visit with Ronald Reagan. There was no doubt left in the minds of those who were there that Mr. Reagan is a gentleman in every sense of the word.

Upon entering the house, the movie star commented "I remember Wesleyan, they are the ones that beat us all the time in football."

Played Against IWU

Recalling some of his football experiences against Wesleyan, Mr. Reagan said, "When I played against Wesleyan they had two big bruisers in the line by the name of O'Brien and Murphy. On this particular play, they picked me up and carried me about 30 yards downfield in the air. While in the air I kept watching the play and finally tapped them on the back and said, 'You can let me down now, boys, the play is over!'"

The conversation turned to a more serious mood when someone asked about the infiltration of communists in Hollywood.

Communism in Hollywood

Mr. Reagan explained that some communists were very well trained in the art of acting and sent to Hollywood to get acting jobs but most of all to start communist cells. "The commies worked their way into the unions and caused a big strike. There were nearly 2,000 people that would not go on strike so the movie industry kept right [on] producing movies. Soon after that the other people got tired of hearing the communist lies and went back to work."

"It can be said," he continued, "that none of the big name stars were or are communists, and I would venture to say that there is less than one per cent of the people affiliated with the movie industry that are communists."

Directing TV Show

"Are there any more questions?" he asked. "Doesn't anyone want to know about [the marriage of] Joe [DiMaggio] and Marilyn [Monroe]?"

"Are you doing any directing?" someone asked. "It seems," he said in answer, "the directors and producers want the actors to stay actors. It is hard to break into that field. However," the handsome actor continued, "I am directing a television production for the General Electric theater. This will be my first attempt at directing."

Once again he asked, "Are you sure you don't want to know what happened to Joe and Marilyn?"

Mr. Reagan stayed a few minutes more, chatting informally and autographing pictures for the boys. Before leaving Ronald Reagan joined in with the rest of the members and sang the fraternity toast song.

"I might not have been on key but I kept up with you," he remarked.

Then in closing he stated, "I best be going—I know how hard it is getting up for an eight o'clock class."

The heavy emphasis on campus activity explains *The Argus'* fascination with Homecoming during the postwar era and into 1960s. Detailed Homecoming articles often ran on the front page up to a month before the big event. Editors freed entire pages for huge pictures of queen candidates, and most editors supplied a retrospective on the events even two or three weeks later. Every issue heralded the returning alumni. The October 15, 1947 introduction to the Homecoming supplement was a typical one for the era:

> "We've polished up the handle on the big front door," we've spruced up out houses and vocal chords to show you, the returning alumni, the most enjoyable weekend possible. You'll find quite a few new twists in this year's celebration which should support our belief that this is the biggest and best Homecoming in the history of our university. Without one thought in mind, however, our efforts would have been in vain. That thought was of you, our returning alumni.

The Argus reported that 1957 Homecoming events—including the "Greek-Indee sing," house decorating contest and "competition events for the [empty] keg"—were "curtailed" because of "widespread illness." A week before the celebration, *The Argus* reported that "Saturday's football game with Wheaton has been called off because of illness at both schools. Wesleyan's squad has been reduced to the point where substitution would be difficult." Most of the team quickly recovered, only to lose to Millikin the next week.

The 1958 Homecoming celebration found all of Wesleyan healthy again, but a minor controversy in the float-building competition made headlines which marred the festivities:

> Sigma Chi fraternity's Homecoming float was disqualified because of height specifications by a 14-4 vote of the Student Senate Monday afternoon. Well over 100 spectators turned out to set the largest attendance record for any Senate meeting this year . . . The question under discussion was: Did the Sigma Chi float pass under the sign and wire over the west gate of the campus without the wire being lifted up by poles manned by Sigma Chi pledges? (October 31, 1958)

Homecoming may have dominated the front pages, but by 1990s standards, one of the biggest stories to make *The Argus* was a report on a campus energy crisis that occurred in February and March of 1950. The university was forced to close three buildings and cut the heat to 65 degrees in all other buildings due

to a coal mining strike. The "big freeze," as it came to be known in *The Argus*, ended when Wesleyan received a rationed supply of coal for four weeks until the strike ended.

The remainder of 1950s coverage focused on the intimate activities of the Wesleyan campus. The front page was a forum for the announcements of new fraternity presidents, sorority housemothers, play production schedules and personal statements from *Argus* members. Staff writer Nancy Kuechenberg's ('60) March 13, 1957 explanation of how and why she broke her leg twice in one year received front-page attention in "Argus Writer Plagued With Clumsyness Blues:"

> Perhaps deep inside I had a feeling of insecurity. With a cast on my foot I have a feeling of power—I know that people will notice me . . . Then too, with this cast on my foot, I can hope that Bob Page, editor of Wesleyan's renowned "Argus," will be sympathetic and break down by printing some of my masterful literature. Actually the whole thing boils down to the fact that I'm pretty d— clumsy.

Civil Rights and Student Activism

The 1960s and early 1970s have been recorded as one of the most volatile socio-political ages in American history, and the events of the era took *The Argus* front page to a new level of coverage. During these years, students took over the front pages as often as they took over campus offices with sit-ins and protests. For *The Argus*, dealing with the impact that radical national events had on Wesleyan's campus was fairly new ground. As 1966-67 *Argus* editor Jim Dorsey ('67) put it, "We were so naive when we came here as middle-class college students. The events of the time forced us to look outside Wesleyan."

Such was the case when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. visited IWU in 1961 and 1966. When King first came to Illinois Wesleyan, the world could not foresee the great impact his life would have on the civil rights movement. In fact, the February 10, 1961 *Argus* front-page preview of his visit read more like a resumé than an article explaining his ideals. But staff writer Nancy Hitchings Danou ('61) placed King's nonviolent struggle in short but succinct perspective, noting that as "a man who never forgot to 'love his enemy;' he made sufferings a virtue."

In follow-up articles on "King: Nonviolence Answer to Segregation," and "Do We Really Love Our Neighbors?" staff writers Dave Kresl ('61) and Peggy Storey ('64) covered the Main Lounge banquet speech and radio interviews. They wrote that King advocated a peaceful movement towards racial equality and condemned the theory of separate but equal rights: "We have never had any separate but equal facilities," he said. King left his crowd with the type of inspirational words that made him famous:

> Non-violence is the most effective weapon for oppressed people . . . It is the only way to achieve an adequate solution to the problem . . . Violence in our struggle would be impractical and immoral . . . to deal with a moral problem we should use a moral means. (February 17, 1961)

Phylis Sanders Salak ('63) was a sophomore when she met King—a memo-

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Fred Young Fieldhouse (1966).

rable moment for her, but not as memorable as her meeting with another campus visitor. "I got to interview Martin Luther King, Jr. and Jack Benny," she said. "Two big names, although, at the time, I think Jack Benny received the most attention from the campus." On an individual level, however, "I was in awe [of King]. It was so powerful. He was exceedingly charismatic as a person," Salak said.

King returned to Wesleyan in 1966 after winning the Nobel Peace Prize and *Time Magazine*'s 1963 "Man of the Year" award. Despite his international fame, the February 4, 1966 article that preceded his visit appeared at the bottom of page one and only reported a brief story of King's accomplishments. Even at that, the preview on "Dr. King coming here next week" was more coverage than King received the week after his speech. His presence on campus was not noted until two issues later, when, in an editorial, King was referred to as "undoubtedly one of the top civil rights leaders of the century" (February 25, 1966).

Although the editorial board didn't think of it at the time, the fact that King's speech was not reported in *The Argus* shocks 1967-68 features editor Elizabeth Glosser Dorsey ('68) 27 years later. It seems that the newspaper maintained its policy of previewing speakers in order to bolster the size of the audiences, but not always covering what speakers said. Not until January, 1989 did *Argus* readers learn the importance of King's visit. In the retrospective "Martin Luther King, Jr. twice touched Wesleyan," managing editor Eric Gardner ('89) reported the essence of King's appearance on campus. Gardner wrote that Student Senate

sponsored King's second visit, which consisted of a speech given to a crowd of more than 3,000 at Fred Young Fieldhouse, as well as classroom appearances and an address to local clergy.

Gardner was able to report King's speech thanks to a re-broadcast by Bloomington radio station WJBC:

> King got through to his audience on that night in February of 1966; he received standing ovations on both entering and leaving the hall. He told his audience, "We must build a greater America. It cannot be built on bombs. It cannot be built on riots. We must work to change the climate that makes for bitterness that causes individuals to turn to these types of self-destruction."

After King's assassination on the early morning of April 4, 1968, Wesleyan mourned with a memorial candlelight vigil. In addition to that event, which was held on April 9, approximately 25 students, mostly African-Americans according to *The Argus*, held a vigil that evening. Both services received front-page treatment, though an inside letter to the editor best captured the impact of King's death and his legacy of nonviolent change. Sara Ellen Long ('64) wrote,

> Not until Friday, April 5, did IWU have a deeper meaning to me. For on that day I faced a classroom of sixth graders in which the first hour of discussion concerned the tragic event . . . It was with the notes from [King's speech in 1961] that I faced my class on Friday, and with them I address this letter to you. [King] challenged us to accept the responsibility of taking the destiny of our culture and redirecting it and remaking it so that equality . . . might reign, and so segregation . . . would be eliminated. Have you as students considered your total commitment to your destiny and to that of the environment you live in? I challenge you to take all there is at IWU and give all you have to it and to yourself. Only in this way might you contribute to the world that Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned and hoped to obtain. (April 12, 1968)

The Reverend Jesse Jackson spoke at the Religious Activities Commission's civil rights symposium in February 1967. According to Linda Henderson Fischer's ('70) article on the Baptist minister, Jackson emphasized the clash between Christianity and racism:

> "The reason I do not hate whites is because I'm Christian. . . . Christ had a new definition of man. He was free to deal with all men." People today, the speaker believes, must "graduate from man's particularity to man's universality." (March 3, 1967)

Like King, Jackson recommended nonviolent protest and change to a receptive Wesleyan crowd. "It is a challenge to remain nonviolent in times like these, but it is mandatory," he said. "I leave the violence to the fools and the foolhardy."

Jackson's presence drew an even greater response from Wesleyan than King's, according to 1967-68 editor Elizabeth Glosser Dorsey. "The campus was very attuned to and really participated in the civil rights movement," she

recalled. "Jesse Jackson left an indelible impression. He was certainly the most militant person we'd ever seen."

Argus coverage of the civil rights movement not only centered on King and Jackson, but also on campus activism. A December 3, 1965 article, "We must face integration now," by Student Senate President Dick Muirhead ('66), reported a letter received from a disgruntled student at Whitman College (Washington) about the slow pace of integration on college campuses. "The Whitman College chapters of Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi cannot pledge Negroes," wrote Whitman's Robert K. Wallace. "If . . . your institution, and ours, and fifty more could place simultaneous pressure on our local chapters, then the national fraternities would have to change or else lose a very substantial block of their member chapters." Wallace sent copies of the letter to 183 institutions.

In response, the Human Relations Committee of Wesleyan's Student Senate issued a statement calling for an integrated Wesleyan: "We also affirm our intent to demonstrate this faith by pursuing actively the practice of integrating Wesleyan affiliated groups and organizations" (December 10, 1965).

The next week's lead story, "What does rights statement mean?" reported Student Senate concerns elicited by the Wallace letter and Human Relations Committee statement. The article told how senators debated the "risks" and "consequences" of voluntary racial integration imposed by a university organization. They questioned whether people would endorse the rights statement for the sake of equal rights or to inhibit Greek life. Although the administration took no official position, associate dean of students Donald Ruthenberg said, "Too often people who support this sort of movement are more anti-fraternity than pro-integration. We have to respect the right of selection of the fraternity." At the time, Ruthenberg was also adviser to the Interfraternity Council advisor and a member of the Human Relations Committee.

Reverend Jesse Jackson and local minister Jack Porter (1967).

While senators bickered over the pros and cons of the rights statement, Human Relations Committee member and sociology professor Emily Dale clarified the committee's declaration in the December 17, 1965 *Argus*:

It means that we believe in an integrated community rather than in a dis-

> integrated one. It means that we intend to practice what we affirm rather than paying mere lip service to an ideal. And it means that we pledge our encouragement to those organizations as yet unintegrated which affirm their support of the ultimate goal, rather than disowning or disavowing them.

After the Human Relations Committee ensured that the rights statement would not shut down any university organization, Senate approved it on December 12, 1965. (In 1968, five black students chartered Wesleyan's first predominantly black fraternity. The organization disbanded in 1971.)

The formation of the Black Student Association (BSA) in 1968 sparked the next campus uprising over civil rights. The November 22, 1968 front-page story "BSA demands ten percent black faculty by fall of '69" described the organization's reaction to IWU's number of African-American professors at the time—zero. The article reported the need for black professors and staff in order "to complete the black students' educational experiences and to aid them in identifying with the modern aspirations and goals of the Black man in this country." Newly inducted President Robert Eckley responded to BSA's demands in the December 6 *Argus*, writing that the university would make "extra efforts" to employ black professors. However, Eckley added, "There is little likelihood that a major portion of the specialized positions can be filled by black candidates, even with the extraordinary efforts we are prepared to make." Eckley said that recruiting black professors was difficult since blacks composed only two percent of the Ph.D. holders in liberal arts at the time. What followed was a series of petitions and meetings between BSA and Eckley over the integrated faculty issue.

BSA's demand came to a theoretical resolution, as reported in the April 18, 1969 article "New faculty policy calls for integration." The faculty approved a statement made by the Human Relations Committee to 1) "make special efforts to attract qualified black persons to IWU," 2) support the increased recruitment of African-American students, and 3) offer "directly relevant courses" for minority students. Two years after BSA demanded a 10 percent African-American faculty, Wesleyan hired one black faculty member, and the university has employed at least one black faculty member since that time.

The 1969 integration policy did not stop reports of alleged discrimination in *The Argus*. Assistant managing editor Jim Robinson's ('74) October 13, 1972 front-page story, "Alleged discrimination mars fall cheerleading tryouts" reported how Cheryl Portwood ('74) filed a petition with the university against the cheerleader selection process. Portwood contended that "there were only five out of a required seven judges, only one black judge, only one person selecting judges and internal conflict within the squad" at the tryouts. After weeks of Student Senate debate on whether the cheerleader selection process should be revised, Dean of Students Jerry Jensen took the matter into his own hands. "It is obvious to me that there are other problems surrounding the whole matter of cheerleading selection and the total operation of the cheerleading program," Jensen said. "All future procedures for selection and governing of cheerleaders

will need to be made in consultation with the Dean of Students." That year, the cheerleading squad was expanded from eight to 11 women.

Kent State and Campus Protest

As on other campuses across the nation, Wesleyan students also protested the Vietnam War. Although violence never erupted in Bloomington-Normal to the same extent as other college communities, *The Argus* looked outside the campus to cover nationwide protests. The May 8, 1970 *Argus* extensively reported the deaths of four students at Kent State University in Ohio after President Richard M. Nixon announced the United States' invasion of Cambodia. After 500 to 600 students set the Kent State ROTC building on fire the night of Saturday, May 2, National Guard troops fired 30 to 40 shots into a crowd of more than 2,000 during a Cambodian invasion protest, according to the May 8 *Argus*. The bullets killed four students and wounded nine. "Bloody Monday," as Kent State political science professor Byron Lander called it in a May 15, 1970 *Argus* speaker story, gave an emotional shape to the Vietnam protest that made campus journalists as active as their professional counterparts.

The Kent State incident prompted editor Tom Wetzel ('72) and *The Argus* staff to collect first-hand information on what took place. "We spent at least four hours on the phone with reporters and students in Kent, Ohio," Wetzel said. "The only outside help we had with the Kent State issue were a few photographs from the AP wire." The staff's hard work resulted in five pages of Kent State coverage in the May 8 *Argus*, which also printed both student and faculty reactions to the incident, along with a graphic of George Washington crying on Mt. Rushmore. Though things remained relatively peaceful at Illinois Wesleyan and nearby Illinois State University, *The Argus* reported that students broke store windows and held an all-day protest on the quadrangle at the University of Illinois less than an hour's drive away, while at Southern Illinois University, rioting became so widespread that Governor Richard Ogilvie called out the National Guard.

At Wesleyan, Student Senate asked the administration to lower the flag to half-mast at the south end of the quadrangle, in honor of those slain at Kent State. However, before President Eckley and Dean of Students Jerry Jensen gave permission to lower the flag at noon, an unidentified student lowered it at 11:40 a.m. This resulted in a verbal skirmish among 75 pro- and anti-war students about 10 minutes later, according to *The Argus*. At noon, IWU security and Jensen broke up the confrontation without injury or arrest. Jensen read Eckley's statement calling for the flag to be lowered "in memory of the four students killed at Kent State and those who have died in Southeast Asia." (Lowering the flag as a sign of loss was nothing new to Wesleyan students. Black students lowered the flag in honor of slain black activist Fred Hampton without administrative approval in October 1969, according to *The Argus.*)

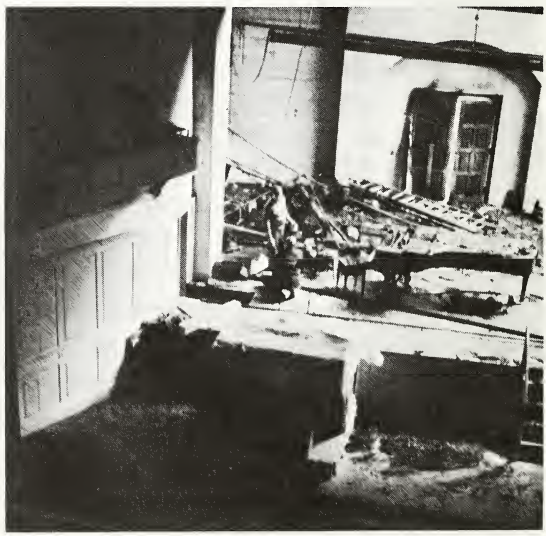
At 12:40 p.m., some students placed a coffin filled with flowers in front of the flagpole and said prayers in memory of the four students. The flag remained at half-mast for the afternoon, except for a brief period at 1:30 p.m., when one

student raised it to full mast and another "promptly brought it back down." The same issue of *The Argus* also reported that IWU students were involved in another flag incident at Illinois State, where a peaceful sit-in turned into a fist fight, with 300 students brawling below the campus' un-lowered flag. Only after 60 unruly students sat outside President Samuel Braden's office for three hours did he sign an agreement to lower ISU's flag to half-mast.

Still recovering from the Kent State issue, Wetzel was sitting in the Memorial Center *Argus* office the following week when he heard screams of "Fire!" from across the quad. What transpired that night culminated in the next edition's front-page article, "Fire destroys Presser Hall stage" (May 15, 1970). "The scene was just not to be believed," Wetzel remembered. "Smoke was pouring out of the building while music students sat on the curb in tears. This was their home."

Two fires were reported to have started in the early morning of May 12, 1970. One blaze started above Westbrook Auditorium's stage and the other in a basement practice room. After the Bloomington and Normal fire departments had battled the blaze for over two hours, the crowd of spectators dispersed with the exception of members of Phi Mu Alpha—the professional music fraternity—who guarded Presser until the next morning. Damage was estimated at $150,000 in addition to two grand pianos at about $8,000 each and a $10,000 practice organ. The newspaper carried photos of the fire damage, which Wetzel described as "eerie. We walked through the [damaged portion of Presser] and found sheet music still standing on the [damaged] organ."

"The fire had developed rapidly, indicating the possibility of gasoline or other volatile fuels," according to the article, collectively written by *The Argus* staff. "[The fire chief] said it was definitely a case of arson." The suspicion of arson and the close proximity of the event to Kent State prompted widespread rumors that Wesleyan's fire was a reaction to the Ohio campus shootings. As a result, the fire was reported across the country through wire services. Two years later the arsonists were apprehended. Instead of a politically motivated protest, the fire had served as revenge for two juveniles who were upset at having been kicked out of Presser the night before.



Arson on stage at Presser Hall (1970).

Just as Wetzel finished supervising coverage of the Presser fire, another flag controversy erupted. The front page of the May 29, 1970 *Argus* showed a picture of senior Ronald Klipp ('70) marching in the Honors' Day Convocation with an upside-down flag sewn to his graduation gown, which caused a campus uproar. Instead of a story, Wetzel created an expanded "letter to the editor" section for the Klipp incident on page five of the May 29 issue. Six letters appeared, as well as Klipp's explanation of his gesture:

> The American Flag worn and displayed traditionally stands for freedom, equality, opportunity, justice and, perhaps the most significant, democracy. By wearing the flag upside down, I am stating that America is no longer representative of the aforementioned qualities. I speak here of prevalent repression, racism, inequality, injustice the move toward racism and other symptoms of contemporary America.

Fellow student Kai Nielsen ('72) defended Klipp's actions in one of the letters:

> This gesture has been called disruptive; if it was, would somebody please tell me what it disrupted. . . . How shocking can the simple wearing of an upside-down flag (the international symbol of distress) be when taken in context of the deaths at Kent State, Augusta, Ga., and Jackson, Miss., the thousands of deaths in Indochina and the deaths of children from malnutrition all over the world, including this country?

Wenona Yvonne Whitfield ('70) also defended the action saying, "As an adult, as a black woman, as a student and as a citizen, I cannot and will not watch another persons' rights being denied. I could give less than a damn about whether the flag was worn, carried or right-side up."

Turning Honors Day upside down: Senior Ronald Klipp caused a stir by wearing an upside down flag on his gown.

In another letter, three faculty members—Emily and Steven Dale and Max Pape—disagreed with Klipp, calling his actions infantile: "To use a collective commemorative ceremony to indulge in personal protest is not only a waste of individual energy but also alienates whole segments who might otherwise support needed change. . . . We should build, not destroy. We should create, not desecrate."

Minor Skirmishes

Minority students were not the only campus group

that pressured the university in the 1960s and 1970s. The women's movement was sweeping the nation, and started Wesleyan women questioning the issue of women's hours. In 1965, university regulations stipulated that female students could not leave their residence halls after 10:30 p.m. on weeknights and 12:30 a.m. on weekends. The fight to eliminate women's hours arrived on the front page on October 29, 1965, when it was reported that women were sent a Student Senate questionnaire concerning dormitory hours. The response was so negative that a special committee was formed with the purpose of working "to submit a formal report of what should be done to change the present hours system" (December 3, 1965).

The May 27, 1966 article, "Women's hours revised for fall," explained the impact of the committee's results. Under the new proposal, female students could look forward to staying out until 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, but, like Cinderella with but one hour to spare, their evening would be ruined if they came home late. Why? Because the doors would be locked. The "buddy system" was the only way to gain entrance after curfew, with "late nights" extended to women according to class rank and grade point average. In response to the proposal, women petitioned to abolish hours for juniors and seniors. On November 1, 1968, *The Argus* reported that a commission composed of students, faculty and administration decided that junior and senior women living in residential halls would be allowed to regulate their hours with the consent of a parent. According to *The Argus*, the proposal aimed "to help women 'develop social understanding'—an objective which is part of the official university purpose." Though campus females felt a battle had been won when the optional hours plan went into effect in spring 1969, the war was not over.

Women's hours "elapsed" altogether in fall 1973, making its last front-page appearance in the October 12, 1973 story on "Wine, Women, and Whatever." Restrictive hours spurred representatives from Munsell Hall to petition Student Senate for more freedom. They claimed that such hours were "an overt act of discrimination against the women of Illinois Wesleyan University by the administration." Munsell representatives also asked that Wesleyan recognize women 18 years and older as adults, in accordance with the state of Illinois. Though hours were apparently abolished in late fall, the newspaper merely mentioned the disappearance of the mandatory restriction in an editorial supporting Tom Patterson ('75) for Student Senate president on March 1, 1974.

Perhaps the end of women's hours did not make front-page headlines because, at the time, *The Argus* was struggling against its own governing body, the Student Senate. A record four editors ran the newspaper in 1973-74, with most de-emphasizing coverage of regular campus issues to focus on Argus-Senate controversies. (Argus-Senate relations will be discussed in chapter six.)

Another issue that received a great deal of coverage was the university's alcohol policy. Although Wesleyan was a dry campus until 1973, 1957 and 1958 issues of *The Argus* indicate that students were no strangers to alcohol. Letters

to the editor reveal that one student was almost expelled for consuming alcohol in 1957, while two were expelled in April 1964 for alcohol consumption.

Letters also indicate that students had contrasting views on the issue. In the column "Policy On Drinking Needs Revision," Stu DeLuca ('64) wrote that student consumption of alcohol had increased exponentially during his four years at Wesleyan and that the entire alcohol policy should be re-examined.

> I was given to understand that alcohol . . . managed to seep into a few fraternity or sorority parties . . . Now, a scant four years later, it has become increasingly common to encounter students—male and female, Greek and non-Greek—half stoned before noontime. . . . I am . . . displeased with the hypocritical attitude the school has shown during the past two or three years toward students who have become virtually alcoholics. (February 26, 1964)

While DeLuca berated the university's "see-nothing" approach to alcohol on campus, Pete Zappa ('66) criticized the university for being too stringent when it expelled two students for drinking that April:

> The two scapegoats made only one mistake—they got caught. So what did they do that was so bad—rob a bank, snatch a purse, or assault a girl? Hell no! The big bad, boisterous, benevolent Normal Police department caught them drinking, foul as it may seem, beer. . . . If that is the case, there are a few hundred others that should have been given an extended leave of absence.

A 1960 column, penned under the pseudonym "Akanthos," maintained that the alcohol issue was destroying the campus. The writer criticized the policy of alcoholic "abstinence" and proposed 1) that the university recognize drinking with "a more realistic attitude on the part of the administration [and] make it possible to provide a better way to dispose of empty beer cans. . ." and 2) that the university require students to attend a seminar on alcohol education—adding, "This doesn't mean how to mix drinks."

Trophy time: Though Illinois Wesleyan was a dry campus, the winners of the Homecoming float-building and house decorating competition took home an empty beer keg.

Ankanthos' flippant argument for a "wet" Wesleyan became a moot point once the state of Illinois lowered its legal drinking age from 21 to 19 in 1973, and the October 26, 1973 *Argus* reported the Wesleyan Board of Trustees'

"landmark decision" to allow consumption of beer and wine in private rooms for the first time in 123 years. With the lower drinking age, an estimated 60 percent of the student body could purchase beer and wine in Illinois.

Still, the 1973 policy continued to come under attack in *The Argus*. A November 1977 front-page article reported that many readers did not completely understand the policy. Only after the newspaper interviewed several administrators (a technique that finally came into use in the late 1960s) did students fully understand when and where they could consume alcohol. In addition, beer or wine could only be transported between private rooms without going through study lounges and stairways. Political editor Don Thompson ('80) interpreted the statement to mean that the board did not "want Wesleyan to become known as a party school," but wanted it to "keep and develop a reputation for its academic orientation." (November 18, 1977). By the end of the school year, the administration tightened the alcohol policy. During the fall of 1978, the university banned beer kegs and prohibited alcohol consumption in certain campus housing areas. This step allowed the university to monitor room capacity and regulate beer parties in Greek houses.

January 1, 1980 meant the end of the state of Illinois' six-year experiment with a lower legal drinking age, and the drinking age was reset at 21. In the lead article from September 12, 1979, Dean of Students Glenn Swichtenberg announced that Wesleyan also would return to its pre-1973 policy:

> The University decided to eliminate alcohol entirely from the campus, rather than to allow those 21 or older to drink in order to remain 'consistent,' Swichtenberg said. . . . He said that the University adopts 'rules and regulations to fit the majority of the students, not the minority.'

The reality of Wesleyan's renewed "dry" attitude hit as the new year arrived. *The Argus* warned students of possible punishment in its first two articles of the new decade, "Bell tolls age change, violators face penalties" and "Dean vows 'no more games.'" Both articles demonstrated the severity of violation but, between the lines, assumed drinking would still take place on Wesleyan's campus—"Just don't get caught."

Alcohol also played a prominent role in the aftermath of the 1977 campaign for Student Senate president. With the March 22, 1977 front-page headline proclaiming "Changeover carried out despite scandal," the newspaper looked more like the *National Enquirer* than a college publication.

Newly elected Senate President Jerry Pope ('80), who gained the presidency in a run-off election by only 16 votes, reportedly conducted his first meeting under a haze of scandal. *The Argus* wrote that senators questioned Pope's alleged purchasing of alcohol for Greek houses before the election. Editor Marla Donato ('78) wrote that Pope provided alcohol for "one particular fraternity" and for "an interfraternity function." However, Donato also reported that a majority of students were unaware of Pope's connection with the Student Senate election and thought he was buying the kegs as a gesture of friendship:

> When questioned by *The Argus* about any signs concerning Pope's election one TKE senator stated that the only sign up stated "Vote for Jerry Pope and win two kegs." After the question and answer session an oral vote of confidence was called for [Pope]. He received it.

The vote of confidence allowed Pope to stay out of the media spotlight until he resigned the following December. On December 9, 1977, in front-page coverage completely devoted to Pope's resignation, political and issues editor Don Thompson and staff writer Elizabeth Martin Hordgraf ('80) related Pope's struggle to remain president. Pope explained that he was too involved in extracurricular activities and needed time to study. During a "tearful good-bye" Pope stepped down, promising continued involvement with Senate.

"Involvement" was an understatement, however, as the next issue of *The Argus* on January 27, 1978 described how Pope—now a senator for Tau Kappa Epsilon—initiated a filibuster that spanned two meetings. The issue which sparked the stall tactic centered on Pope's desire not to include independent students in a Rush-Pledge study committee. Those wanting to include independents argued that pledge activities affected residential life, necessitating the involvement of non-Greeks. When the motion passed in favor of the independents, Pope tried to pass two amendments attempting to keep them from voting on committee issues. Both amendments failed, but "Pope took the floor once more to make another amendment, this time with no voting qualification attached . . . and kept talking," according to managing editor Ann Orth Nussbaum ('78).

Hoping eventually to kill the motion using Washington-style politics, Pope read from chemistry and English books while disgruntled senators wandered about the room, waiting for him to finish. Because filibusters lasted as long as a senator remained standing, Senate could not adjourn. Forty minutes into Pope's "speech," however, students left the meeting and decided to continue the discussion at the February 5 Senate meeting. In an interview with Orth-Nussbaum, Pope felt he did the "right thing," even though senators left the meeting angry. "I just felt it was important enough that I should lose some respect over it," he said.

Pope was effective in making his point, as Senate passed the independent non-voting status amendment on February 5. By the end of the ordeal, Senate minutes reported that the meeting lasted more than 340 hours—the longest in history.

The Late 1970s: *The Argus* as a Police Blotter

The news reported during the Pope scandal seemed trivial when compared with reports of campus attacks and break-ins that followed. The April 1977 *Argus* reported a string of break-ins and assaults against members of the Alpha Omicron Pi (AOPi) sorority, forcing security to put the campus on alert. The newspaper reported that the AOPi attacks may have been related to the 1975 murder of ISU student and sorority member Carol Rofstad.

Security concerns returned one year later when *The Argus* reported how a

female Gulick Hall resident entered the bathroom, opened the shower curtain and found a fully-dressed man in the shower stall. Another woman was showering in the next stall at the time. Though the man escaped and was never caught, he matched other descriptions of a prowler that had reportedly been seen elsewhere in the dorm.

Improved security and safety programs (campus buildings received new locks and security systems, and security hired two additional people for night watch) had little effect the following fall. For the next three months, *The Argus* read like a police blotter. A September 22, 1978 article, "Late night attack... Muggers assault women," reported that two women were mugged while walking down Main Street in the early morning. One woman was hit with a club, and later received six stitches in her head. *The Argus* reported that the mugger made away with a three or four dollars. A week later, an intruder broke into the Kappa Kappa Gamma (KKG) sorority house and awakened two women before he escaped. No students were injured, but two additional break-ins, including one rape, had been reported the same night "within blocks of IWU." One Kappa told *The Argus* that fraternities should not raid sorority houses at the risk of getting reported to police. "We'd like you to tell people lock everything, shut the windows, shut the doors and put on alarms if you have them," she said. "We're really jumpy now. We've got tennis racquets and things in the rooms now, and really, we could hurt someone and not mean to." (September 29, 1978).

The week between September 29 and October 6 witnessed the molestation of five AOPi members and the rape of another. All were roommates and were assaulted by a man armed with a gun and a knife. Despite their tennis racquets, another intruder invaded the KKG house. Outside Wesleyan, three attempted rapes and one intrusion were reported to Bloomington police.

As a result of the violence, *The Argus* reported an increase in the sale of tear gas and mace, and the addition of self-defense courses. The violence also prompted staff writer Elizabeth Martin Holdgraf's October 6, 1978 story, "What motivates a rapist?" Martin's article dispelled the myth that rape "is an act designed to fulfill the sexual needs of the attacker" and defined it "as a planned act of violence whose purpose is to dominate and humiliate another's body." The article also reported that "in 60 percent of the cases, a rapist will be married and lead a normal sex life at home."

When the violence disappeared from *The Argus* front pages as suddenly as it had begun, an October 20, 1978 editorial reminded female students to be careful with the protective items they purchased and techniques they learned. "Women are armed these days," wrote *The Argus* staff. "They're equipped with whistles and sirens and discovering seventeen ways to break a person's ear drum without even trying. The safety steps are all very necessary, but use the precautions with caution." Despite the apparent paranoia, *The Argus* reported no injuries at the hands of mace-wielding female students the rest of the year.

The 1980s: A Slow News Decade, Except for . . .

The Argus covered one of the most controversial incidents of the decade with a story on administrative grade-changing, "Students protest grades" (December 5, 1980). When business policy instructor Robert Lee gave A's to everyone in his Principles of Management 341 class, including some students who had dropped the course, administrators decided to re-issue grades on the basis of students' grade point averages. "I should give *The Argus* credit," Pamela Muirhead ('68), then chairperson of the Faculty Advisory Committee, said. "The faculty did not know [of the situation], *The Argus* broke the story. This was one of the times that the newspaper was ahead of everyone else."

As reported by staff writer Greg Jackson ('82) and managing editor Lora K. Weliky ('81), once Lee received notice that the university would not renew his contract for the following semester, he changed the class's format. "He would continue to present the material . . . but it would be possible just to earn a grade," *The Argus* reported. "Lee said he never told his class that they would all receive 'A's' but according to students in the class, the implication was clear." The grades were turned in to Registrar James Barbour, who then alerted Dean Wendell Hess of the situation. According to *The Argus*, grades were changed on the basis of a student's past performance, how well the student had performed in his or her major and the student's overall grade point average. Hess declined comment to *The Argus*, and the administration gave no reasons for the grade changing.

Editorials fought the administration's decision to undermine professors' actions: "We must protest the University's actions. Once a teacher has given a grade, the grade must stand. This principle far outweighs the thought that an entire class may be assigned one grade... It is a matter of upholding the principle that one lives by" (December 5, 1980). The editorial board, led by Tracy Higgins Fox ('81), urged Management 341 students to protest their "changed" grades in front of the Academic Appeals Board. Many students followed their advice, according to Muirhead, though the details of the Board's decisions were confidential and could not be printed in the newspaper.

That fall, another scandal rocked the campus, a story so controversial that it was covered not only by *The Argus*, but also by the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice*. When IWU English professor Robert W. Burda's second novel, *Clinemark's Tale*, was dropped by the Book-of-the-Month Club because of similarities to W. Somerset Maugham's *The Painted Veil*. A local bookstore sent back the copies it had ordered, and reviewers who had planned to devote space to the book suddenly dropped it. Burda was quoted in the local *Pantagraph* as saying that he took the plot and some of the language from Maugham in order to do a take-off on the novel, to turn it "on its male chauvinist pig head."

The Argus did a thorough job of reporting the accused plagiarism for the February 15, 1980 issue, informing readers that editor-in-chief Don Thompson

and news editor Cathy Aumack ('81) spent two and a half hours talking with Burda, in addition to reading both books in question. In a one-and-a-half page treatment, editors compared sections of text and included an extended interview with Burda. The reporters also asked tough questions, as, for example, why Burda told *Newsweek* reviewer Walter Clemons that he had never read Maugham's *Painted Veil*. *The Argus* reported that Burda said his interview with Clemons "got off to a bad start and ended with a tug-and-pull situation." Burda added,

> I found him extremely hostile with these types of questions and I was a little bewildered. . . . When we finally got to a point where he read a couple of lines from Somerset Maugham . . . I said, "but the sexes are changed." There was a brief silence and then he said, "oh, ah yes," and it was clear that he didn't know the sexes were changed. . . . A point was reached in the interview where I wouldn't respond to any of his questions about Maugham's book, "I guess I'll have to say I've never read the book."

Burda dismissed the *Tribune* criticism as "phrase after phrase of lies" and told *The Argus* that the *Newsweek* article reached for its accusations of similarity, saying it took him six chapters to get to "a 'strangely similar' incident. What did I accomplish in those six chapters? Was I incompetent? My book is in a totally different genre. My book is a first-person novel, Somerset Maugham's is a third-person novel. He has no narrator, and the narrator is at the heart of my book."

Editors warned their readers that they would have to read both books to make up their own minds, but followed with an editorial on February 22 which began, "The evidence is in." In it, they called for the university to act quickly and to "try [Burda's] use of Maugham's work just as it would judge a student accused of a similar violation," whether the verdict is innocent or guilty. The episode was brought to a close when Burda resigned rather than face possible action from the university's tenure and advancement committee. The lead story in the April 11 *Argus* began with a Burda quote: "'I think enough's been written, or miswritten, about the whole thing,' Professor Robert Burda said, turning away an *Argus* reporter. 'I just plan to write for the next couple of years.'"

Other events covered during the 1980s had little relevance beyond Wesleyan's borders. The November 7, 1980 *Argus* reported how Brent Smith ('84) used CPR to save a car accident victim's life. A 1985 fire that ravaged the fourth floor of Munsell Hall made the front page. All residents escaped injury but were moved from the hall until repairs were made. Caused by a misplaced cigarette, the blaze resulted in $35,000 in damage. Other top news stories included the fall 1980 opening of the Phoenix (an experimental music and drama arena) and the 1984 addition of the first two public computers in Sheean Library.

Alcohol caused a stir once again in January 1985. A front-page article, "Dean pulls charter; Acacia prepared to fight" described the university's suspension of the Acacia fraternity. News editor Greg Tejeda ('87) and editor Rick Linneman ('85) reported that yet another alcohol violation was responsible for

the loss of the charter. Dean of students Glenn Swichtenberg had warned fraternity members after previous alcohol violations that their charter would be revoked, but the warnings "seemed to have no affect . . . I'm through playing games" (January 18, 1985). Acacia President Rick Herrick ('86) fought the decision to no avail, believing his fraternity was "made an example of" in regards to the alcohol policy and Greek life. Other campus groups supported Herrick's claim. *The Argus* featured photos of both independent and Greek residences supporting Acacia with signs of encouragement. After all previous members had graduated, the university permitted Acacia to recharter its chapter in 1988.

Students expanded their questioning of authority to include more worldly issues the following school year. Student Senate approached the issue of Wesleyan investment in South Africa, in light of the anti-apartheid call for divestiture against the country. Senators drafted a proposal demanding the Board of Trustees reveal whether or not Wesleyan held investments in South Africa. The October 18, 1985 *Argus* said that the proposal called on the university to "acknowledge the 'immoral' nature of apartheid," notify Senate of any investment in South Africa and tell Senate what actions Wesleyan would take against South Africa.

With the help and cooperation of the administration, an article the following week, "Trustees denounce apartheid" (October 25, 1985), answered the student body's questions. Without denying allegations of South African investment, the Board of Trustees "joined a growing number of institutions voicing official abhorrence of the practice of apartheid in South Africa." The trustees also employed the help of the Common Fund Corporation in making future investments. The corporation was a non-profit organization that helped educational institutions manage investments while considering "international social responsibility." The trustees organized a monitoring committee to examine Wesleyan's portfolio of company investments.

The Titans of Politics: *The Argus* and National Election Coverage

Although most presidential elections have been covered, or at least mentioned, in *The Argus*, political coverage did not become a mainstay in the newspaper until the 1960s. Television has made political candidates more accessible to the public, prompting an increase in student interest and *Argus* coverage.

The first presidential race that received in-depth coverage by *The Argus* was the 1932 contest between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Herbert Hoover. The November 3, 1932 front page was a larger-than-life ballot with pictures of the candidates, and *Argus* editors, knee-deep in Republican country—McLean County, Illinois, which didn't even vote for favorite son and Democrat Adlai Stevenson during his runs for the presidency—chose to mark the Republican ballot (a subliminal hint to the readers?). Hoover may have lost the national election, but he won *The Argus* mock election by a landslide of 260 to 73 votes.

Perhaps the campus elections jinxed the national outcome for the 32 years that followed. Wesleyan was unable to pick a winner until Lyndon Johnson

became president in 1964, and seldom was the campus outcome even close. As reported in the October 28, 1936 edition, "If the national election were held today, and confined to the Wesleyan campus, the Republican candidates for president, governor and United States senator would be elected by a margin of more than three to two over their Democratic rivals." Landslide results in favor of the losing candidate also occurred in 1940, 1952, 1956 and 1960. Outcomes of the 1944 and 1948 mock elections were omitted from *The Argus* in lieu of Homecoming articles.

Though Wesleyan's students favored Richard Nixon over John F. Kennedy with a vote of 761 to 198, according to the November 8, 1960 *Argus* edition, the campus felt the national shock wave that hit when Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963. *The Argus* paid homage to America's slain president in its December 6, 1963 issue. Though the news was not given front-page treatment (the assassination occurred just before Thanksgiving break, making it too late to be timely), three opinion pieces of grief and mourning appeared on page two. In "Greatest Tribute Continues Progress," an editorial encouraged Americans to carry on:

> Of all the tributes paid to our late President, perhaps this last fact is the greatest of all. For this country which Mr. Kennedy had so much confidence in and had given his all, his America—our America—was still moving forward.

The Argus did not cover national politics in detail after Kennedy's assassination. News of Robert Kennedy's assassination and the Nixon Watergate affair were omitted from the newspaper.

After the successful prediction of the Johnson presidency in the 1964 mock election, students continued to choose the winner in presidential campaigns. Nixon won the 1968 Wesleyan election by 63.4 percent of the vote. Ronald Reagan received roughly two percent of the Wesleyan write-in vote that year.

From the time of the 1980 election, *The Argus* would become one of Reagan's most frequent critics. In the mock 1980 election, Reagan received only 35 percent of the vote, placing him behind independent candidate and Illinois native John B. Anderson, who received 40.3 percent. Still, a November 7, 1980 editorial (whether sincere or tongue-in-cheek) called for the campus to support the new president: "Ronald Reagan stands for all that America is: clean cut, heroic in a sad way; an old and decaying society. . . . We must encourage our new President in his desires to return to what is good in our past." Four years later, an editorial endorsing Walter Mondale for President said that "the dreams of a better country through better education" would die with Reagan's proposals to cut student loans and force other education cutbacks (November 2, 1984).

The 1988 election brought George Bush to Bloomington/Normal on September 30, 1988. Speaking on the Illinois State University quad, Bush blasted Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis for his liberal beliefs and announced his "infamous" plan of "no new taxes." Managing editor Eric Gardner reported the event for *The Argus*, including the presence of anti-Bush demonstrators, not-

ing, however, that their yells and protests could not be heard above the large Republican crowd. The campus correctly selected Bush as the winner, giving him 50.3 percent of the vote to Dukakis' 43.1.

In 1992, editor Jennifer Barrell ('94) and managing editor Amy McCoy ('94) conducted an interview with future first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton at the University of Illinois' voter kick-off address. Information gathered in the interview and at the following address shaped an article which gave *Argus* readers information on the Democratic platform and its visions for health care and educational reform. Since Barbara Bush never made it to town, *Argus* readers had to settle for Derek Roach's ('96) article on the McLean County GOP fundraising picnic to hear the Republican voice by way of Illinois Governor Jim Edgar and U.S. Senate candidate Rich Williamson. The rally focused on comparisons between the policies of Bush and rival Bill Clinton, which Edgar claimed was a "clear difference." According to Edgar and Williamson, Bush's tax-reduction policy and experience in international affairs were more desirable than Clinton's "inexperience" and "tax and spend" tactics. "This is not a time to put someone who has no experience in international affairs in the presidency," Edgar said.

Despite the governor's plea, Clinton received 54 percent of the campus vote, while Bush and independent candidate H. Ross Perot received 35 and 11 percent, respectively.

Politics and Political Correctness in the 1990s

Often accused of being a liberal-minded newspaper through letters to the editor, the 1989-90 *Argus* gave front-page coverage to such politically controversial issues as abortion, "family values" (touted as an issue by the Bush administration) and condom distribution. During the 1992 election, articles not only reflected campus concerns, but also included local, state, national and international events. While one issue discussed the Liberian civil war, "Liberian crisis spans international boundaries" (November 13), another carried stories dealing with different levels of government elections (October 16).

On April 6, 1990, *The Argus'* headline read like that of a major metropolitan daily, informing the campus that four IWU students were among 500 protesters arrested at an El Salvador march in Washington, D.C. One of the students' foreheads was "gashed during the arrest process." The following week, "about 500 people crowded the [Memorial Student Center's] Main Lounge to see psychedelic pioneer [Dr. Timothy] Leary debate [Curtis] Sliwa, founder of the Guardian Angels crime-fighting organization, on whether drugs should be legalized." The April 17, 1992 *Argus* reported that eight Wesleyan students were among 1.2 million to participate in a pro-choice march in Washington, D.C. Staff writer Julie Belinski ('94) described the magnitude of the event and the reason the students wanted to attend:

> The Pro-Choice March held in Washington, D.C. on April 5th was the largest civil rights demonstration in United States history . . . The chant stemmed from concern in the pro-choice movement that Roe v. Wade

> will be overturned this summer. One of the primary goals of the march . . . was to show that the majority of Americans are pro-choice.

Not only did *The Argus* of the 1990s cover political and social issues, but it also focused on political "correctness." In an era when America felt the need to, at least verbally, accept everyone and political correctness became a cause, campus activists made women's issues and gay and lesbian rights a priority.

A March 1992 article reported the formation of the Gays and Lesbians of Wesleyan (G.L.O.W.), a support group for "those with homosexual concerns." Although 22 faculty members sent letters of encouragement to the group, only 15 students attended the first meeting. Despite the small turnout, those 15 people built a foundation that provided weekly campus speakers and discussions for the IWU community. Less than a year later, G.L.O.W. caused a ruckus when it petitioned for a seat in Student Senate, according to *The Argus*. After weeks of deliberation, G.L.O.W. gained Senate representation by a three-vote margin.

Women's issues were covereed by The Argus in the 1990s with articles concerning date rape and sexual awareness appearing on page one. When various political figures denoted 1992 the "Year of the Woman," *The Argus* had more reasons to feature women's rights and roles. Staff writer Deborah Obalil ('95) reported the address given by Eleanor Smeal, president of the Fund for a Feminist Majority, in "Activists call for gender awareness" (March 13, 1992). Articles such as this gave a feminist perspective to *The Argus*, covering topics from women in leadership roles to a "work vs. family" debate to women's political issues in an election year.

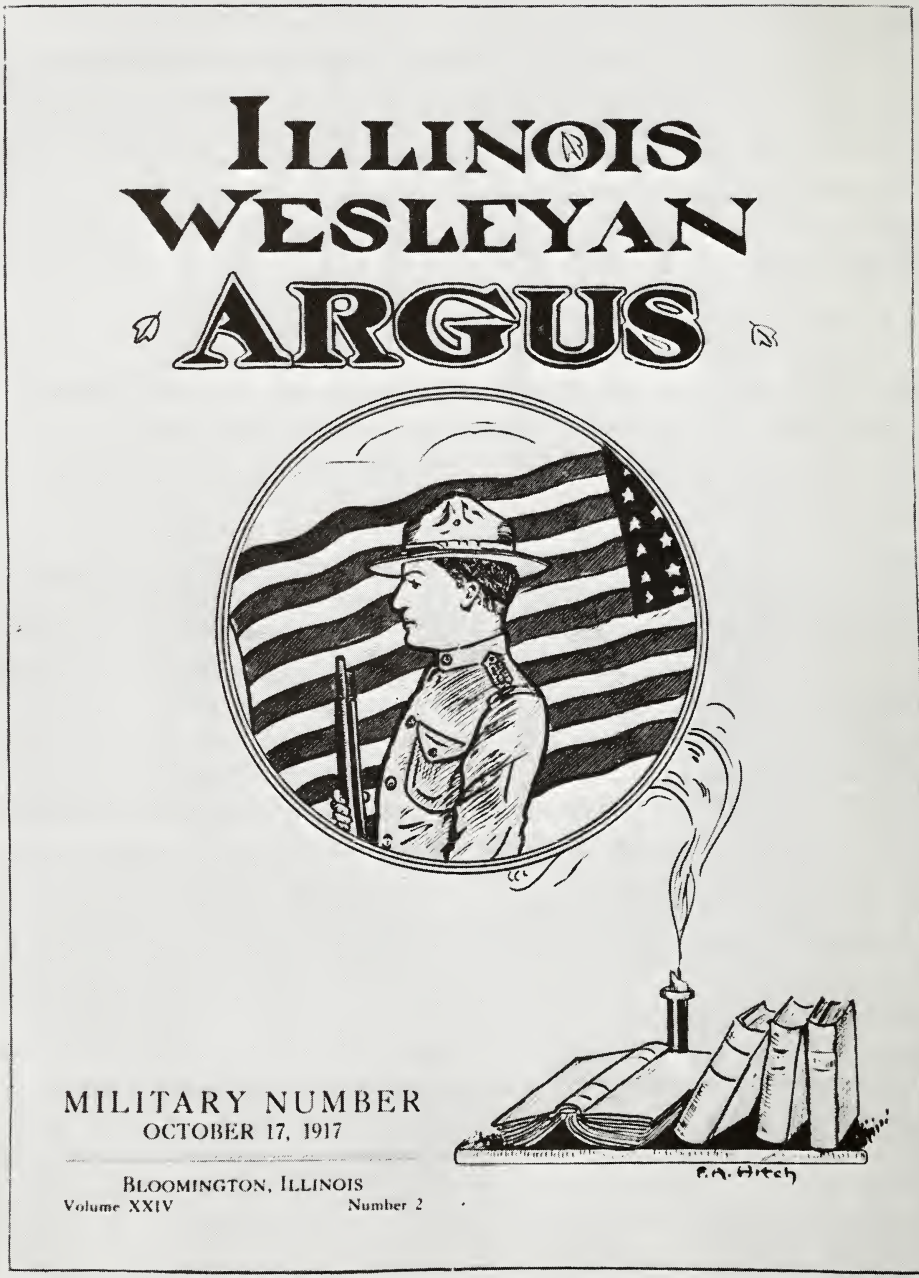
The Argus has continued to cover national hot topics such as nuclear disarmament, gun control, sexual assault, abortion, feminism, racism and AIDS awareness through reports on campus speakers or other campus tie-ins. For example, the December 3, 1982 front page told how "more than 100 IWU students, teachers and administrators crowded the Memorial Student Center President's Room to attend an open forum on racism," while the November 19, 1993 *Argus* reported that "more than 125 people joined four IWU female professors in the Davidson Room on Tuesday, Nov. 9 to discuss their ideas on and experiences with feminism."

The reality of violence nationwide also has hit the campus during the 1990s. "An Illinois Wesleyan student was assaulted on Monday night at about 7:15 p.m. in a parking lot behind the old Bloomington Jr. High school," wrote news editor Julie Belinski on page one of the March 12, 1993 issue. The woman, who was on her way to dance class, advised other students to "never drive alone off campus at night." The newspaper reported an even greater loss when former Wesleyan student and *Argus* staff writer Jennifer Lockmiller was found strangled to death in her apartment near Illinois State University on August 30, 1993. Lockmiller transferred to ISU to take part in the school's journalism program in 1992 and worked as a feature writer for ISU's *Daily Vidette*.

As *The Argus* centennial approached, one organization that lost its front page prominence was Student Senate. Editors reduced Senate meeting coverage from

lengthy stories to a paragraph or two in "Senate Spot," a bi-weekly front-page Senate update. But because Senate still holds the purse strings for the newspaper, senators occasionally think *The Argus* should be more appreciative toward the hand that feeds it—meaning, more space and more positive treatment.

The final front-page story of the decade has become a fixture in *The Argus* since 1989, repeating through 1993: Wesleyan's No. 1 ranking among regional universities in the Midwest, as reported annually by *U.S. News and World Report*. Articles such as "Wesleyan captures top position in Midwest" (October 13, 1989) and "Popular belief confirmed again . . . Wesleyan crowned #1" (September 27, 1991) have told how IWU has been ranked at the top of approximately 130 regional universities in the Midwest each fall for the last five years.



Over there! (1917)

CHAPTER 4

The Argus Goes to War

Each time America has gone to war, *The Argus* has responded differently, according to the public's changing perception of conflict. Still, the newspaper's coverage has consistently offered a look at war's effects on a student community thousands of miles away from the front lines. Stories on campus speakers and editorials played a significant role in shaping public opinion. Additionally, trends that *The Argus* observed—flag-waving patriotism during World War I, intense hatred of the Germans and Japanese during World War II, Korean and Vietnam War draft fears and protests—mirrored national attitudes.

World War I: War Fever Hits Campus

When Great Britain entered World War I on August 3, 1914, Wesleyan rhetoric professor Lyde R. Porter was on a nine-person European travel tour. As a result of her timely travel, Porter wrote the first war story for page two of the September 30, 1914 *Argus*, "Some Experiences in the War Zone," describing her unplanned, extended stay in neutral Switzerland and her struggle to return to America. Without her passport—which was supposed to be forwarded to Europe but was delayed because of fighting—"it seemed impossible to cash our American Express orders, our banker's checks, and letters of credit, and other commercial paper," she reported. "It was utterly impossible to get word of our whereabouts to our anxious friends in America." Porter also witnessed the Swiss government's halting of cab, automobile and streetcar rides to conserve energy and its banning the use of telegraph lines for non-military purposes. On August 18, after a 15-day stay in Berne, Switzerland, Porter's tour group boarded a long-awaited train for Paris while watching Swiss soldiers "throw up intrenchments" in case of invasion. By the time she boarded a ship to America, Porter was "glad to come home, but sick at heart over the devastation and desolation of a continent at war."

Porter's war sickness was not echoed elsewhere in the fall 1914 *Argus*. Instead, the newspaper tended to portray war as romantic, adventurous and even humorous. In an article discussing Professor Wilbert T. Ferguson's trip home from Switzerland, *The Argus* casually reported, "Professor Ferguson was fortunate to be in Paris the two days that the German aeroplanes hovered over the city, marks for sharpshooters, but no prey."

In another account, "Letter From Professor Parlin: Relates Exciting Experience in Escaping from Field of War," students read not of bombs or trench warfare, but of Elwyn C. Parlin's adventure after being mistakenly arrested by the German army. "My unpolished German resembled so closely the German spoken by the French . . . and with my camera and tablet paper, I spoke with suspicion," he wrote. After Parlin convinced German officers he was an American, the Germans shipped him to neutral Switzerland, where he could not cross the border since he, like Porter, never received his passport. Obtaining a certificate of identification at the border, Parlin "rode the 650-mile gauntlet of military trains to the Holland border" where he boarded a ship back home.

While Dr. Harold H. Love's ('09) letter to *The Argus* of October 14, 1914 related a less life-threatening experience, he portrayed more of a spirit of adventure than danger. Love described visiting Germany during wartime as a "privilege," and he was impressed by the German army. "The marching of the regiments to the railroads was an inspirational sight," Love wrote. "The German people are a great lover of flowers and the soldiers were much decorated with flowers and wreaths on their bayonets."

But reports of slaughter and disease brought increasingly serious *Argus* war coverage as the 1914-15 academic year progressed. Front-page opinion articles throughout the year proclaimed that it was America's responsibility as a Christian and independent nation to end the European war. "The Opportunity of the United States" graphically challenged readers to picture five million men "engaging in the slaughter of human souls. I am sure that you have attempted such a picture, though it is probable that you have abandoned the undertaking when you began to color the soil with human blood." In another article, staff writer Roy L. Davis ('15) called on education and equal trade as peaceful war solutions, predicting the United States would lead formation of an "international commonwealth, court and police force."

The Argus editorial board supported America's neutrality. "In peace, we grow stronger, we build up greater industry and commerce, and strengthen our position as a world power," one editorial said. "The warring nations are losing life, wealth, prestige, and blocking the progress of their own history." A February 24, 1916 article on former Illinois Governor Joseph Fifer, an 1868 IWU graduate and Civil War veteran, confirmed these anti-war sentiments. In an address to the student body reported by *The Argus*, Fifer said that many arguments had been made to expand the Army and Navy since the Civil War, yet "the nation succeeded just as well without them." Fifer, whose older brother, George, was Wesleyan's first casualty of the Civil War in 1863, also believed that the United States would not enter the conflict. But on April 6, 1917, after German submarines had sunk five American ships the month before, President Wilson asked for and Congress voted to accept a declaration that a "state of war exists between the United States and the Imperial German Government."

As a result, the May 3, 1917 *Argus* reported that all Wesleyan men would be required to take military training (as would most U.S. collegiate males) during

the 1917-18 academic year. Women were encouraged to enroll in Red Cross nursing classes at Bloomington's Brokaw Hospital. American nationalism flourished. A four-page article on "Wesleyan Patriotism" gave extensive coverage to an April 18 patriotic celebration of the campus' new flag and flagpole located just south of Hedding Hall. Amidst this day of flag waving, Star-Spangled Banner singing and 21-gun salutes, students were told not to enlist immediately in the armed forces but to await military authorities' instructions as to "where they could be of most use." As *The Argus* patriotically said, "It is gratifying to every local Wesleyan student to know at this critical period Wesleyan is ready and willing to shoulder her share of the burden and take part in the great struggle which is now being raised for liberty, equality and freedom."

The Argus staff gave impressions of the conflict page-one treatment. "What War Meant to the Senior Girl," for example, relayed an unnamed student's emotional distress over the number of male graduates who missed their final college days to serve their country. The war's uprooting of students made her realize how the conflict had changed Wesleyan and how women would have to rise up and bravely aid the boys overseas:

> Girls are not so light-hearted and frivolous as you had supposed. It is for the senior girls to show their bravery, courage and sympathy at home which their friends show on the field. Happy, cheerful thoughts and a calm spirit are a help and protection to those on whom you think and help perform their share in the war. (May 14, 1917)

By the time students returned for the 1917-18 academic year, Wesleyan's students and alumni were playing active roles in World War I, and what was once sporadic war coverage in *The Argus* increased to two or three articles per issue. The first active-duty issue, which appeared on October 17, 1917, complete with a patriotic front-cover graphic, told how "war fever" had set in at Wesleyan. Even the peace orators who had been preaching international cooperation just one year before were now "devoting all their energies to the study of how to fight successfully for Uncle Sam," according to an editorial. President Theodore Kemp labeled World War I the "holiest cause ever undertaken by the country" and proclaimed that Wesleyan would be at its country's service. A semester later, the January 16, 1918 *Argus* reported more than 152 stars, representing Wesleyan's 152 alumni and student soldiers, highlighted Amie Chapel's newly unveiled "service flag." At war's end, that number increased to more than 200, with 14 white stars representing those who lost their lives.

Despite Wesleyan's "war fever," *The Argus* preached a "stay in school" message.

> Our nation at present has as many men in its service or under call as it can equip and train. But in back of the soldiers in the camps and in the trenches there must be kept a far greater number of men who are studying in the colleges and universities. And in back of the Red Cross nurses in the hospitals there must be a great reserve of girls who keep on with

> their studies in the schools. This generation of American boys and girls must still have its college chance. (October 17, 1917)

Those who took their "college chance" read about the war news from former student and alumni letters. In September 1917 *Argus* staff members, led by editor Marion J. Austin ('18), contacted as many Wesleyan soldiers as possible in hopes that they would send word about their war experiences. Servicemen responded enthusiastically, in front page stories at first, then later in inside columns titled "Words from the Front" and "From the Army Mailbag." In return for their on-the-scene reporting, soldiers received free copies of *The Argus*.

The first letter from the front lines appeared in the November 14, 1917 issue from Chaplain Jesse S. Dancey, an 1899 Wesleyan graduate serving in an Army base hospital near the Ypres front in France. Dancey wrote of the men wounded and dying around him but insisted that all "loved" the fact that they were fighting for a holy cause. "It is a great experience to see convoys of wounded coming in, worn to the limit with sleepless nights, days and nights of fighting, and weakened with loss of blood, but exhilarated with the flush of battle," Dancey wrote. "At the time, the loss of the leg, or an arm, or an eye seems of no importance when compared with the fact that the Germans are crumbling before their attacks."

Dancey's description of the ultimate patriotism and unflagging morale of all soldiers might have been exaggerated. As a chaplain, he was part of a military copy-editing committee that made sure soldiers' letters did not leak confidential battle information or speak negatively about the war effort. Excerpts of a letter from Wesleyan student Paul Martin ('15) show the extent of such censorship. Martin appeared to know this when he wrote, "I would like to tell you all about our trip but cannot on account of the censorship regulations." Positive attitudes were prevalent in soldiers' letters, which focused not on battles, but on boot camp, cadet life and traveling. "I have talked with many English soldiers and they say [life in the trenches] is not so bad after all. They laugh at our fears," Martin wrote.

If soldiers did not return letters to *The Argus*, the staff would contact their families or bases for information. The result would be two to three pages of Wesleyan "military profiles" that ran alongside soldier responses. Letters and profiles dominated the newspaper to the point that the February 14, 1918 issue, normally the Valentine's Day issue, contained no mention of Cupid or kissing coeds—only campus and war news.

The Argus also reported war's effects on colleges around the globe. The enrollment situation was much worse overseas, according to "British Universities And The War," written by Latin and Greek Professor Francis Marion Austin. While Wesleyan had 110 student and alumni soldiers in Europe at the time of the January 30, 1918 article, Cambridge and Oxford, respectively, had 13,128 and 11,176 students and alumni fighting. More than 3,000 of those serving had already been killed; another 1,500 were missing in action. Despite the war, no American college or university was forced to "significantly diminish"

its operations or activities, according to *The Argus*. The most outstanding attendance drops came at Ivy League schools like Harvard, Yale and Princeton, where male enrollment had decreased by over 3,000 since the 1916-17 school year.

War took its toll on Wesleyan's enrollment as well. At the start of the 1917-18 academic year, enrollment dropped 15 percent to 265 students (including those in the law school), with women outnumbering men 141-121 in the undergraduate college, according to university records. As the year progressed, more men enlisted in the service to the point where the commencement issue listed only six men graduating.

The university sponsored speakers and events designed to boost war morale and combat the reports of death and destruction circulating in *The Argus* and other newspapers. One speaker, U.S. Representative John A. Sterling (1875), emphasized that the United States was a peace-loving nation and that Germany's sinking of American ships forced America into the war. Sterling assured his audience that America would quickly win the war, "provided her people buy a significant number of liberty bonds." Wesleyan tried to boost morale for soldiers overseas by sending books. In a page-two story, "More Books Needed for the Camp Libraries and Our Men 'Over There'" (March 14, 1918), the editorial board set a goal of "as many books sent from Wesleyan as she has in the service"—that number being 186 at the time. The newspaper believed that the "boys in khaki" who spent their leisure time reading would not only be better prepared on the battlefield, but better prepared for life after the war.

Between spring 1918 and Germany's surrender on November 11, 1918, *Argus* war coverage continued with letters, military profiles and speaker stories, with but addition—obituaries. Fourteen Wesleyan men died during the war—three on the battlefield, the other 11 from severe illness, usually pneumonia. News of the soldiers' deaths came after the war ended, making postwar editions bittersweet. The same issue that reported the Armistice celebration also announced the deaths of five Wesleyan men.

Not all postwar issues, however, were filled with doom and gloom. A humorous front-page article by Army chemist Mark R. Bodell ('15) contrasted life in boot camp with postwar adventures in downtown New York. Bodell compared his upstate New York boot camp experience to that of George Washington at Valley Forge. "We were living in tents during the cold spell, up to the week after Christmas," Bodell wrote. "One fellow sat down on his cot one night [for bed] and said, 'Well, I guess I'll undress now,' and removed his glasses. Instead of undressing for bed, we dressed" (February 22, 1918).

Wesleyan rejoiced along with the nation at first news of the Armistice. According to the November 22, 1918 *Argus*:

> Shortly after two o'clock at the first sound of cannon and bells, Wesleyan students were awake and were ready to give full reign to their joy and enthusiasm. . . . As the parade passed the university and Kemp Hall, the girls, throwing books and lessons to the wind, joined in the ranks to make them 100 percent strong.

The Armistice party went on all night with classes meeting in the afternoon (not without protest, of course). The final World War I article, an editorial titled "Frontiersmen," proudly proclaimed that the war's end meant a new beginning for Wesleyan:

> Why have so many of our recent campaign speakers told us that they envied the irrepressible enthusiasm and dauntless courage of our youth? Because it is the youth of our nation . . . who are to take the lead in the reconstruction of this, our new era. We are the Frontiersmen just as truly as the Pilgrim fathers were the frontiersmen of the greatest democracy in the world. (November 22, 1918)

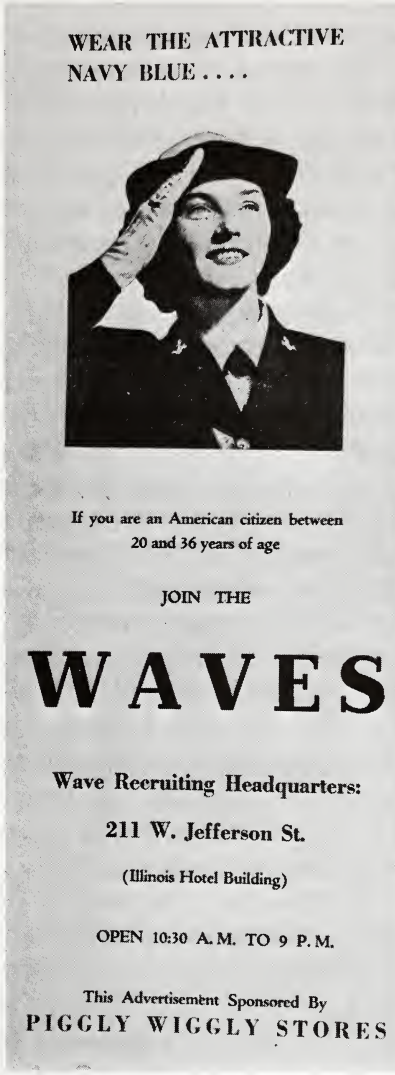
World War II: "One Hundred Percent All-out Cooperation in the War Effort"

Although the January 14, 1942 *Argus* indicated that World War II "war fever" rose even faster than during World War I, *The Argus* editorial board offered students the same advice as it did in 1917—prepare for battle, but don't forget about education:

> Certainly, this university will be hit by the war emergency, but if proper adjustments are made, she will not be hurt. But even more important than this is the post-war period. Students, by taking advantage of educational institutions and their facilities must prepare to step into the world facing the gravest and greatest responsibility ever put upon a generation—that of remaking the world—a world fit to live in and not to be killed in.

The campus responded to this message with cotton in its ears. By spring, 1942, five Wesleyan faculty members entered the armed forces to join another 219 IWU students, faculty and alumni on active duty. (More than 1,110 Wesleyan men and women served in World War II. Fifty-one gave their lives during the conflict.) The university even coined its own patriotic slogan—"One hundred percent all-out cooperation in the national war effort," which made its first of many appearances in a page-one article on January 14, 1942. The story presented administration dean Malcolm A. Love's wartime recommendations after he returned from an education and war conference in Baltimore, Maryland. He immediately

A 1942 war bond advertisement.



Making waves: Wesleyan women were encouraged to join the war.

appointed a faculty committee to "improve the physical fitness of students" and "inaugurate the instruction of first aid for men students." (Love took a leave of absence to accept a naval commission the following year.)

With the men away fighting the Germans, Japanese and Italians, women dominated *The Argus* during World War II. On both national and local levels, the decrease in available male workers provided new openings for women in the working world. The newspaper had a string of female editors from 1942 to 1946, and the 16-member 1943 editorial staff contained only three males. "The reason I became the editor was because all the men went to war. At that time they weren't giving much recognition to women," 1943-44 editor Margot Smith Lucas said. Other World War II editors recall similar experiences. Eleanor Ann Browns Fennelly ('46) edited *The Argus* in 1945-46 and remembers the search for male editors. "I'm sure [the university] wanted some men for editors, but there were very few men in comparison to women," she said. However, 1942-43 editor Beth Mackey Stiffler viewed the female staffs of the 1940s not as last resorts but as a phenomenon that was long overdue. "I don't believe we were placed in our spots because there were no men around. Women were becoming more interested in journalism and were doing what they could to learn the profession," Stiffler said.

Wesleyan women not only took an active role in *The Argus*, but in the war as well. A number of stories told how Wesleyan's female-led Student Soldier Contact and War Record Committee helped boost soldier morale with daily letter writing. During the holiday season, the local YWCA sent soldiers care packages containing shaving soap, razor blades, candy, cookies and the latest *Argus*. Women also worked as "canteen aides" at the Bloomington train station, passing out goodies to traveling soldiers, while the IWU Women's League established a

Red Cross first-aid class of its own for 83 women.

The Argus jumped on the "One-hundred percent all-out national war effort" bandwagon during the 1943-44 academic year. The editorial, "Are You Boosting The Red Cross and War Activities?" urged students to work in a newly completed bandaging room and to buy and sell war bonds and stamps. "When the time comes, won't you plan on giving it some of YOUR time?" *The Argus* asked. "It may cost you a bit of effort, but is that comparable to what it's costing others?" Other editorials challenged students to "give up one Coke, one package of cigarettes, one show or some other little pleasure" to help American GIs.

Along with the push to support the troops with money, editors wanted to keep in touch with Wesleyan's soldiers. The first-hand experience of watching their friends march away to war had *Argus* readers hungry for overseas information. "We were the first class at Wesleyan that watched men leave at the local train station, and that's when we really got serious selling war bonds and writing letters," Mackey Stiffler said. "We put a lot of emphasis on keeping in touch." *Argus* appeals definitely drew a response from the student body. The March 4, 1942 issue reported Phi Gamma Delta fraternity's "new kind of Hell Week" sold $25,700 in war bonds. The February 10, 1943 issue reported that IWU topped its $50,000 war bond sales goal and posted total sales of $109,903.25. *The Argus* reported that the money was used to purchase two pursuit planes—one named Wesleyan.

By the middle of the 1943-44 academic year, "war wasn't everything at Wesleyan, it was the only thing," and *The Argus*, occasionally featuring patriotic pictures of George Washington or Abraham Lincoln, expressed this with at least two pages of war coverage in every issue. Feature stories disappeared in lieu of war articles. "I think there was a more serious attitude on campus, and feature stories tended to be a little more frivolous. There was more of an effort to get stories about the war and selling war bonds," Mackey Stiffler remembered. The somber campus cut back on parties and the few Student Union, fraternity and sorority dances that were held frequently had patriotic themes. *The Argus* announced another book drive and ran a number of war bond advertisements. In addition, Illinois Wesleyan also started a government-commended Civilian Defense program consisting of 10 committees ranging from soldier contact to consumer information. Page one of the March 4, 1942 issue reported that Wesleyan's new course offering—a non-credit pre-induction military course—would help men "not be so handicapped upon entering [the service] since they will know something of military commands, courtesy, discipline and the manual of arms." A credit course in first aid was later adopted. The Army, Navy and Marines all ran widely publicized recruiting drives in *The Argus* and enlisted 48 students in the reserves during campus visits.

As in World War I, letters continued to splash *The Argus* with the war's details, this time including more graphic accounts. One of the more eye-opening letters came from Ed Dirks ('43), who left Wesleyan to join the Navy. Dirks

thanked the editorial board for sending copies of the 1942 Homecoming issue abroad and expressed distress over the war's great length and the amount of "flag waving" in the United States. "Uniforms and parades and flags are wonderful, but they don't compare to the rain and mud, and blood and death that we guys out here see," Dirks wrote. "I have not personally experienced all of the war's hardships, but what I have seen, and what my friends from home have seen, has impressed our minds vividly with the magnificence of peace—and the horribleness of war."

Nonetheless, the IWU administration offered students opportunities to finish college early in order to enable them to more quickly join the fight. According to page one of the January 21, 1942 *Argus*, the university established a 12-week summer session that, if taken twice, could replace a student's final year. Taking extra-credit hours could eliminate another semester. In the following issue, the newspaper reported that over one quarter of the campus "patriotically" registered for summer school. In turn, those students drafted by selective service received course exemptions. For example, liberal arts students who would normally meet all the requirements for graduation in June and were taken by selective service before completion were given credit for the last semester.

Enrollment for the 1942-43 school year dropped to 621 students—106 less than the previous year. The university lost 48 more students, according to the March 3, 1943 *Argus*, when all of Wesleyan's reserves were called to active duty. As a result, Wesleyan would offer classes 48 weeks a year by adopting a quarter system the next fall (March 17, 1943). The quarter system further hastened the graduation process, allowing a year's work in one subject to be completed in 12 weeks. After the war, Wesleyan returned to the semester system.

Reports of the Wesleyan community's bravery filled the newspaper during and after the war. Lieutenant Cecil Petty ('38) manned an Army transport plane through a storm after weeks of fighting at Guadalcanal and miraculously crash-landed the plane on a coral reef when it ran out of fuel. Ten days later, the Marines rescued Petty and 19 other soldiers who stayed alive despite being sick and wounded. Joe Joseph ('49) participated in a "miracle" bomb run that ended up saving a number of soldiers and journalists from German ground forces that were just about to open fire. Although Joseph and his comrades could not see their targets because of horrible weather, they were still able to bomb the German forces.

Perhaps the greatest show of courage came from Lieutenant George R. Fox ('32), a Methodist Army chaplain on the ship SS Dorchester. On February 3, 1943, when German U-Boats torpedoed the Dorchester off the coast of Greenland, Fox and three other chaplains—one Catholic, one Jewish and the other Protestant—aided panicked soldiers with lifejackets and assisted them into the sinking ship's lifeboats. "From a box they distributed lifebelts and when this supply was exhausted, each, without a moment's hesitation removed his own precious lifebelt," wrote members of *The Argus* editorial board (January 10,

1945). "These belts they gave to the next four men in line." As the ship plunged into the icy waters, "the men in the water and the men in the life boats saw the chaplains, arms linked, voices raised in prayer, standing together as the fated ship went down." The government later awarded all four the Distinguished Service Cross and, in 1948, issued a postage stamp remembering their bravery. The story also prompted the movie *Four Men of God.* In 1951, President Harry Truman dedicated the famous "Chapel of the Four Chaplains" at Temple University in Philadelphia, which was later moved to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

As a balance to Fox's tragic story, an uplifting feature titled "Two Brothers Meet Across Half A World" appeared in the same issue. Sergeant James F. Thornton and Corporal George A. Thornton ('34), both of whom attended Illinois Wesleyan from 1932-34, had not seen each other for nearly three years since joining the service. Sergeant Thornton hailed from Bloomington and was stationed in Egypt, while Corporal Thornton lived in Springfield and served in Persia. With the help of the American Red Cross, they were finally able to take leave and meet in the Holy Land for eight days. Together, according to *The Argus*, they toured the Biblical sights, went to the donkey races, danced, shopped and swam in the Mediterranean Sea. "And to make their stay complete, they were billeted in the same tent, where they whiled away many hours just talking about their family, friends and home back in Illinois" (January 10, 1945).

Even a trend story appeared as a result of war. The newspaper reported that college youths were postponing marriage plans as a result of GIs reporting to active duty (February 25, 1942). According to Student Opinion Surveys of America, only one-third of college students had marriage plans in 1942, compared to more than 50 percent the year before. The article also laid to rest the myth that the war caused "a rush to the altar" among collegians. In both 1941 and 1942, only one percent of college students said they were already married. However, over 30 percent declared they would like to be married within two years after graduation, suggesting, perhaps, that many thought the war would be over soon.

Those students would have to wait four years for the Allied victory bell, let alone the wedding march. The first step came when Germany surrendered to the Allies on May 8, 1945. As in World War I, news of German surrender appeared on page two of *The Argus*, since the newspaper had already set its front page stories. The May 9, 1945 headline read, "VICTORY IN EUROPE: Germany Forced to Capitulate After Six Years of Fighting; Allies Face Big Job in Pacific," and the victory report was as dramatic as Wesleyan's war involvement:

> As the Germans capitulated, behind them lay the remnants of a once all-powerful army, which, like Napoleon's, underestimated the vast steppes of Russia, and then found the U.S. and Britain gathering force behind its back; behind them lay Germany's blackened cities and shattered railway lines, pulverized by Allied aerial attacks; and behind them in the ruins of Berlin reportedly lay Adolph Hitler's dead body.

Although Berlin's capture was a gigantic step toward peace, Americans accepted victory with restraint, according to *The Argus*. America's focus shifted east, where Japan and the United States remained locked in battle. As these battles raged on, somber reports of some of the 51 members of the Wesleyan community who gave their lives for their country appeared on the inside pages of the newspaper as the 1944-45 school year ended.

After the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, and Japan formally surrendered on August 14, the war was officially over. But the newspaper continued its coverage, reporting the return of soldiers, Red Cross workers and journalists. Page one of the August 31, 1945 *Argus* reported that three former Wesleyan students, Sergeant Roger Rasmussen ('44), George Thomas Jr. ('43) and Elmer Rylander ('43), "engaged in research leading to the perfection of the atomic bomb." Rasmussen, an electrical engineer who attended IWU in 1941-42, was one of the 160 people who witnessed the bomb's first test in New Mexico. Former *Argus* editor Everett Melby ('36) observed World War II in Switzerland as the assistant general secretary of the International Student Service—a group that organized student exchanges and international cooperation between universities. During the war, Melby organized refugee schools in southern France, Hungary, Romania and Poland.

The most extensive coverage of postwar affairs occurred when editors devoted the entire four-page April 25, 1945 issue to the "Dumbarton Oaks Documents, Proposals for the Establishment of a General International

The World War II-era barracks were demolished to make way for Shaw Hall (1953).

Organization." The documents outlined a proposal for The United Nations to be discussed at a conference in San Francisco. Attending the "Frisco Parley," according to the front page of the May 2 *Argus*, was former *Argus* editor John Fremont Melby ('34), then vice-consul of the United States embassy in Russia.

With the fighting over, *The Argus* reported that enrollment swelled from 523 in the fall of 1945 to a total of 846 by the end of 1945-46 academic year. The university provided temporary housing for 60 veterans and 12 faculty members at East Bay camp on Lake Bloomington 13 miles northeast of IWU, and at the Hamilton Hotel, formerly located on East Front St. The university acquired transportable housing units, better known as "the barracks," from an army camp in Weingarten, Missouri the summer of 1946. While the units did not have plumbing and heating facilities, veterans admitted to *The Argus* that they did not mind and "were just happy to be back." Three weeks later, IWU began constructing Annie Merner Pfeiffer Hall, which housed 122 veterans its first year. Pfeiffer later became a women's dormitory when the need for veteran housing declined during the 1950s.

Military Visitors Invade Wesleyland

The Wesleyan community sent many members to the armed forces during both world wars, and the military returned the favor by supplying Wesleyan with cadets. President Theodore Kemp told the November 8, 1918 *Argus* that Wesleyan was one of 300 institutions selected for the Student Army Training Corps (SATC). Much like the present-day Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, SATC prepared collegiate men for active military duty while allowing them to obtain a degree. According to university records, it attracted 260 men to campus, increasing the College of Liberal Arts' enrollment by 181. (Total university enrollment grew to 606 in 1918-19.) To accommodate SATC, the Bloomington Association of Commerce erected a mess hall and barracks northeast of the quad. "Most of the SATC men are getting more discipline than they ever had before in all their lives," wrote *Argus* reporters in "Impressions Of Barracks Life," adding that "they are learning the lesson of obedience, a lesson which few men have fully learned."

Although SATC classes had just begun in October, the December 6, 1918 *Argus* announced the disbanding of the program. With the war over, the government could no longer financially support the program. Despite SATC's short stay, the university benefited, since many cadets finished their education at Wesleyan after SATC had ended. Their presence, along with an influx of veterans, boosted enrollment to 961 for the 1922 academic year.

The university also served as a training center for two military sectors during World War II. For more than a year during World War II, 40 Navy aviation cadets from across the Midwest occupied Kemp Hall, which they nicknamed the "U.S.S. Wasp." Another 38 from a dismantled Illinois State University program transferred for the 1943-44 school year. Cadets usually spent half the day at Wesleyan and the other half at the airport learning to fly. "The cadet's life isn't

all hard work and study, however, for they are permitted to have town liberty on Saturday and Sunday of each week," *The Argus* reported. "And what cadet isn't already aware of the local feminine splendor that inhabit this fair village?" The cadets held numerous dances and also participated on Coach Cecil Russell's 1943 2-4-1 football team.

In addition to focusing on cadets' social events, which were usually printed in a "Navy Notes" column, *The Argus* ran a series of personal profiles on some of the flight trainees. One of the more humorous articles profiled the cadet's nurse:

> There are no WAVES or Navy Nurses aboard the U.S.S. Wasp. To the discouragement of many cadets, there is only Raymond Dumas, Pharmacist Mate 3-c. . . . Thanks to the Navy ruling about no female nurses on the ship, the patient's blood pressure doesn't rise when Dumas goes to work. (October 13, 1943)

Other cadet profiles told of career goals, favorite foods, most memorable moments and, like their SATC counterparts, the beauty of Wesleyan's coeds.

The Navy unit left campus on July 27, 1944 "because casualties among Navy flyers have not been as heavy as had been anticipated," according to *The Argus*. Wesleyan's training facility was eliminated and the university remodeled the U.S.S. Wasp back into Kemp Hall, a women's dormitory.

The Argus Versus the Enemy

In addition to fostering a sense of American pride in many newspapers, World War II also created intense animosity toward Germany and Japan. In this too, *The Argus* was affected. The first hate article appeared when Eleanor Ann Browns Fennelly covered a speaker on postwar security, Vera Michaels Dean, for the October 18, 1944 issue:

> No peace terms, however just and lenient will seem satisfactory to the Germans—even to the anti-Nazi Germans. A certain number of Germans will have to be relieved of their existence. . . . In executions, military policy rather than legal policy should prevail. . . . If Nazi leaders are merely banished, they will be living martyrs—always a potential threat.

Dean declared Berlin "the ugliest city in the world, enough to depress any German" and suggested the capital be moved after the war. Dean also said America should occupy Germany for 60 years after the conflict to rid the Nazis from the planet and supervise education.

A few *Argus* articles did not show much respect for the "Japs" (as the newspaper referred to America's Pacific enemy). The staff even printed an Allied leaflet that was dropped over islands near Japan, which used propaganda to scare the Japanese: "One bomb after another brings destruction and death. Your Air Force cannot protect you. Why continue resistance and cause further useless shedding of blood?" But propaganda was a two-way street, according to United Press International foreign correspondent Robert Bellaire, who told of his experi-

ences as a Japanese war prisoner at the 1942 Associated Collegiate Press convention in Chicago. Japanese soldiers told prisoners of war that Japan "had invaded California and was moving east; that the president had been assassinated, and that Japanese military men were in power in the White House." Bellaire also said the Japanese provided one tub of water a week for 30 guards and 70 prisoners and that Americans were not allowed to talk or exercise.

Stories like Bellaire's made Americans wary that Japan's spies and military actually were living in West Coast states, and the government sent 110,000 Japanese-American citizens to relocation centers as a result. The May 13, 1942 issue featured a letter from former *Argus* editor Mary Fran Payne ('40), then a journalism student at Northwestern University, urging Illinois Wesleyan, "a Christian university, a liberal university," to "take Japanese students evacuated from the West Coast" (May 13, 1942). The May 27 editorial reported that Wesleyan was one of 100 midwestern colleges asked to take students of Japanese descent "who, because of war regulations, are not able to finish their college work on west coast campuses." The FBI approved the plan and would periodically "check" the students. Though the "problem" was to be decided by straw vote in chapel that day, the following Monday's paper carried no news of the results, nor was the vote mentioned in faculty or Board of Trustees minutes. Only the appearance of several Japanese-American transfer students in the 1945 *Argus* and 1946 *Wesleyana* would indicate the result of the vote.

Propagandist war bond ads such as "Slap That Jap" showed blatant disrespect for the Japanese (1943).

Korea: "War Fever" Dies Hard

After President Merrill J. Holmes returned from a trip to Washington, D.C. in October 1950, *The Argus* reported that "for the second time within a decade, the presidents of American colleges and universities were called together last week to discuss the contribution their institutions could make to national service" (October 20, 1950). Although the nation was only partially mobilized for the Korean conflict, according to Holmes, one delegate at the convention thought

the United States was involved in World War III. But Wesleyan was not moved. During the Korean War, articles and editorials did not express the same patriotism as those during the two world wars; war fever was apparently buried with the 51 soldiers who died during World War II. With less campus enthusiasm, *The Argus* did not devote as much space to the Korean War as it had to earlier conflicts. Jim Ridenour, *Argus* editor during the 1952-53 school year, explained that "this wasn't a war like Vietnam. There was much less publicity and much less activity because most people were supportive. Strange as it may seem now, the war never entered the back of my mind [in relation to *Argus* coverage]."

Five months after the conflict began, editor Lennie Genung ('52) wrote a two-part series, "*The Argus* Visits: Korea," which presented his impressions of the country from a 1947 visit:

> The country probably has the lowest sanitary conditions that exist anywhere. The people dress very crudely in dirty clothes that have seldom seen soap and water. . . . Their food is very small in portion and has a very peculiar and nauseating smell. . . . Homes are bamboo with mud walls and thatched roofs without much exception. Heat is provided by an after-a-fashion open fireplace in the homes.

In an editorial, Genung accused the United States of "saying one thing but doing another" with Korean foreign policy. During his visit, he said he noticed a number of permanent American military bases being constructed on Korea's southwestern coast with new schools and living units. Genung found this American construction quite peculiar because the United States, since the end of World War II, had said its policy was to keep South Korea as "weak" as possible so it would not invade the Russian-occupied North. Genung used *The Argus* to express his belief that America was justified in mobilizing South Korea, because he said the Soviet Union had brought 300,000 "communized" refugees back to North Korea, along with 2,000,000 native Koreans who had been fighting as communist guerrilla troops. "With this nucleus Russia established a communist 'People's Republic' and army upwards of 200,000 well equipped men," Genung wrote. He argued that the Soviet Union coaxed North Korea to invade South Korea on June 25, 1950.

The May 2, 1952 *Argus* reported that the Korean War was taking its toll on Wesleyan's enrollment and budget. Because of a drop in federal aid, the administration laid off 12 faculty members and increased tuition for the next year. Enrollment, which soared to 1,073 students for the 1950-51 academic year, plunged to 778 in 1952-53 because of rising costs, fewer course offerings and more enlistments, according to an *Argus* editorial.

War news usually ran on inside pages and only when the government offered Selective Service testing, or when a student or alumnus wrote a letter to the newspaper. An exception to this trend was an editorial that urged students to donate blood for Army M*A*S*H units: "An average of nine pints of blood is needed for every man wounded. Lives could be saved if only someone had not

been too busy or afraid to give a pint of blood." A November 9, 1952 story, "Letters to Ike Urge Korea Cease Fire" told how the Save Our Sons Committee, a group of relatives and friends of those serving in Korea, organized a statewide letter-writing campaign to president-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower for an immediate cease fire. It urged students to join the campaign and included a sample letter: "It is criminal that thousands of American youths continue to be maimed and killed. . . . Millions of Americans are looking to you to act on their behalf of these youth and end this useless slaughter."

The Save Our Sons Committee received its wish when the war ended eight months later on July 27, 1953. Unlike World War II, issues following the Korean War did not contain news from the front, military profiles or obituaries. Only one article appeared, reporting that 38 Korean War veterans enrolled at Wesleyan.

Draft Concerns and ROTC Hopes

The Argus voiced its concerns with the draft even before it became a national issue during the Vietnam War. On page one of the February 14, 1951 *Argus*, President Holmes wrote that the program for drafting 18 year-olds for 27 months of Korean War service was more "drastic" than the conscription systems of Russia, France, Italy, Belgium, Britain or Denmark. *The Argus* editorial board agreed:

> Twenty-seven months, we feel, is entirely too long to expect any man to serve when the rest of the country is not under complete mobilization. Many veterans of the last two wars never saw their second year in uniform, much less began to work on their third. This certainly is not democracy, with everyone sharing responsibility for the safety of the country. (February 14, 1951)

When Congress suggested that college students be deferred from service because of necessity "to the maintenance of the national health, safety or interest," students in good academic standing were deferred until graduation. (The IWU Registrar's office has no record of students being drafted, nor did the newspaper report any being drafted in either the Korean or Vietnam Wars.) If graduates did not find employment after 30 days, their deferment expired.

As in World War II, various branches of the military recruited on campus during the Korean War. According to *The Argus*, an Air Force cadet program offered students a year of military training and a salary of $105 per month. After this first year, cadets became second lieutenants and received $415.75 per month while on active duty for three years. Although the Air Force program was alluring, it required students to drop out of college, something President Holmes considered unacceptable. The December 15, 1950 *Argus* reported that Holmes was "seriously contemplating" the installation of an Army ROTC Unit at Wesleyan to guarantee a degree and military training while, in the same issue, an *Argus* survey said 81 of 100 men would join a campus ROTC unit.

After a long wait, ROTC bypassed Wesleyan, but Holmes' desire for a military plan that guaranteed graduation were met in the next academic year.

According to the January 9, 1952 *Argus,* students could enroll in the Marine Corps Reserve officer training program. Students only had to take two six-week summer training courses to qualify, provided they maintained good academic standing. The program did not require training during the school year, and upon graduation students gained a second lieutenant rank and $213.75 per month. "This program rates a lot of merit," the editorial board wrote. "Service life seems to be an eventuality these days and the PLC program (Platoon Leaders Class) is as good if not better than any of the college service-training courses offered."

In 1965, as the United States rapidly increased its presence in Vietnam, draft concerns arose in *The Argus* once again. A January 7, 1966 statement by national Selective Service director Lewis B. Hershey said that the government would defer as many collegians as possible, but depending on the circumstances, some would make the journey to southeast Asia. However, in an April 22, 1966 interview with registrar Daniel S. Oborn titled "IWU male students not draftable—so far," Oborn said the university was not communicating with the draft board, as many male students had thought. Despite this fact, IWU added a military science requirement, "Introduction to Army Life and Jungle Warfare," which began in summer semester 1967, to aid students who might be drafted. As college students gained military deferment, enrollment jumped from 1,283 students in 1964 to 1,729 students by 1968 and remained steady at this level through the 1970s.

Vietnam: Controversy Erupts, Even at Wesleyan

College students nationwide demanded immediate troop withdrawal from Vietnam as early as September 1966, according to an *Argus* College Press Service article. The 19th annual congress of the U.S. National Student Association (USNSA) voted 181-83 that all offensive military operations in Southeast Asia cease. With over 400,000 American troops in Vietnam at the time, students also recommended gradual abolition of the military draft, with service in the United States Peace Corps or social work replacing service in the armed forces. The congress said that communist North Vietnam must be recognized and included in peace negotiations.

Popular opinion at Wesleyan differed drastically from that of the USNSA, according to *The Argus*. Despite the student congress' recommendations, a November 10, 1967 article "Campus sampling indicates Vietnam support," reported that a "majority" of students and faculty supported the war. (The article failed to provide statistics.) "It makes no difference who wins the Vietnam war, we'll all have to die some day," declared an unnamed IWU faculty member. "The war is merely an episode of the decline and fall of the western civilization." Most students polled expressed Cold War animosity as reason to fight. According to one freshman, the war was "halting a Communist threat to strengthen democratic policy." But not all students agreed. "I don't feel we are fighting for democracy, freedom, liberty and all the other high sounding words we pound into the 19 year-old GI's heads, but are fighting to save a certain somebody's face in Washington," said Kenneth Saito ('69).

Speaker stories and articles focusing on campus guests provided most *Argus* Vietnam War news from 1965 to 1973. In fact, more speaker stories appeared during the Vietnam years than during any other war. The first, written by Cindy Fairburn ('67), focused on a Northern Illinois University professor's negative opinion of U.S. involvement in Indochina. Students heard more divergent points of view when the IWU Convocations and Religious Activities Commissions co-sponsored Vietnam Week—a three-day forum which attracted the highest attendance rate among campus activities in "recent memory" and dominated five pages of the November 17, 1967 *Argus*.

Speaking on behalf of the forum's pro-war side were Mutual Broadcasting System correspondent Craig Spence and University of California at Los Angeles professor and foreign analyst William R. Van Cleave. Both contended that the People's Republic of China would spread communism throughout all of Southeast Asia if the United States pulled out of Vietnam. Spence, who had recently returned from South Vietnam, said the real war taking place was between the United States and China. "If this were merely a civil war in Vietnam, I'd say, 'fine, let them have at it,'" he said. "But it isn't. There are thousands of Chinese in North Vietnam, and they aren't tourists."

On the anti-war side, Straughton Lynd, a Chicago State University history professor, and Vivian and Richard Rothstein, representatives of the American Friends Service Committee, said that they opposed the war because they felt the United States misunderstood the North Vietnamese. Lynd called U.S. policy "external fascism" and said troop withdrawal would result in Ho Chi Minh's government winning popular support. The Rothsteins, part of a 40-member American delegation who met with the North Vietnamese at a peace conference in September 1967, supplied Wesleyan with a more critical view of the U.S. "As far as I'm concerned, the United States is invading South Vietnam," said Mrs. Rothstein. "The North Vietnamese are fighting a moral war; they're fighting for the independence and protection of their people."

Reports of student war protest at Oberlin, Harvard University and University of Illinois hit *Argus* pages in January 1968 after the North Vietnamese launched the massive Tet Offensive, termed by historians as the war's turning point. Protest also rocked Wesleyan's conservative campus. The May 3, 1968 *Argus* reported that more than 600 students attended the first protest event, which featured speeches and readings from 10 faculty members and students. Paul Bushnell, an IWU history professor, accused the United States of "trying to build a colonial empire." Bushnell also denounced people that viewed Vietnam protesters as unpatriotic or cowardly. The new definition of "patriot," he said, no longer meant one who dies for his country, but one who, unfortunately, kills.

During the 1969-70 school year, the campus literally came to a halt when faculty and students voted in favor of a moratorium on October 15, 1969, to discuss pro- and anti-war viewpoints. Over 1,000 students attended the debate, which ultimately revealed a campus-wide anti-war bias. President Eckley and

administration members participated in a night session of the debate, where financial aid director Lynn Nichelson said skyrocketing war costs were cutting IWU federal education aid. The November 21, 1969 edition of *The Argus* reported that Wesleyan and Illinois State students visited 375 Bloomington-Normal homes looking for signatures and donations to stop the war. In addition, Student Senate expressed its anti-war position by voting to remove U.S. troops from Vietnam in a 30-2 vote, while the faculty voted 43-23 to adopt a resolution condemning North Vietnamese treatment of American prisoners of war (November 7, 1969). The School of Drama denounced Vietnam by presenting the anti-war productions "Lysistrata" in 1970 and "Oh What a Lovely War" in 1971.

Despite growing anti-war sentiment, *The Argus* still received and printed pro-war opinions. One letter to the editor, "Soldiers repudiate 'coward'; Marine Defends Asian War," demanded respect for the government's position in Vietnam. Thomas H. Keeslar ('69), who was serving in artillery-shelled Da Nang, Vietnam, wrote, "There are some people that snuff these men and their loyalty to their country, ideals and morals. . . . Is loving your country so wrong? Is trying to protect home, family and loved ones wrong?" Keeslar concluded that U.S. troops were fighting for a country that wanted to be free and referred to congressmen who opposed the war as "the draft dodgers and draft card burners of the past."

Although American troops remained in Vietnam until 1973, President Nixon's withdrawal of 500,000 U.S. troops between 1969 and 1972 resulted in less Vietnam coverage (pro-or anti-war) in *The Argus*. In fact, Nixon's success in removing the "Red Curtain" between America and China actually drew praise from "political editor" Paul W. McVicker ('72) in an August 27, 1971 column, "U.S.-China move improves peace:"

> Peking's willingness to develop closer diplomatic relations with Washington at this time, presumably indicates that China is willing to see a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam War. President Nixon's actions . . . have changed history and created what is probably the most significant development in international relations since the close of World War II.

Page one of the January 12, 1973 *Argus* reported a controversial 22-20 Student Senate vote to send $300 to the Medical Aid to Indochina Committee. "Arguments for passage were based on the premise that the people of Indochina are not enemies of the people of the United States and due to the damage done by U.S. bombers all twenty-six provincial hospitals in North Vietnam are in need of medical supplies," the article said. Arguments against the motion questioned Senate's right to spend student activity fees in this manner. Others felt the $300 should be used for on-campus activities and not donated to outside organizations. Regardless, the donation to a former enemy indicated that IWU students wanted peace in Indochina. That peace (at least for American troops) was reported on page one of the January 26, 1973 *Argus* in a collage of headlines from national newspapers, with a caption beneath that read "Lest we forget."

The 'Hundred Hours' War

The student protests and domestic violence of the Vietnam War marked a turning point in the way the nation and *The Argus* regarded war. On August 2, 1990, nearly 100,000 Iraqi soldiers invaded the tiny Persian Gulf country of Kuwait. In response, President George Bush sent 200,000 American troops into Saudi Arabia later that month as part of an international coalition named Desert Shield; the president also sent a mailing to college newspapers, obviously having learned the lesson of Vietnam. Like colleges across the nation, *The Argus* ran Bush's address to students in the January 18, 1991 edition. "There is much in the modern world that is subject to doubts. . . . But not the brutal aggression of Saddam Hussein against a peaceful, sovereign nation and its people," Bush said. "We have the chance—*and we have the obligation*—to stop ruthless aggression."

The Argus' first mention of the war appeared on September 14, 1990 with two College Press Service wire articles dealing with student draft concerns. Not until October 5 did the newspaper print a student-written article, "Conscientious objection allows personal alternative to war . . . " which reflected students' fears of a reinstated draft and their attempt to avoid fighting overseas. The idea of conscientious objection—allowing those who morally object to war to abstain from participating it—was a popular idea in *The Argus*, appearing in three of the 12 articles about the Gulf War. "Many of us have a natural fear of going off to war, largely created by the possibility of returning in a box," staff writer David Barrett ('92) wrote. "However, for those who fear killing another person as much as losing their own life, there is an alternative."

Once the air war began on January 16, 1991, *The Argus* asked in an editorial, "Should Kuwait be our responsibility?" (January 18, 1991). Instead of the all-supporting staffs of World Wars I and II, this editorial board asked students to think twice about backing President Bush's Iraq attack. But, "While Bush is 'unambiguous' about the Middle East crisis, let us be 'unambiguous' in our support for the men and women of the military representing the United States." The following week, the staff continued to support the troops in "Soldiers in Gulf need our support." Editors asked students to write to the two Wesleyan soldiers who were stationed in the region. *The Argus* may not have agreed with the war, but it did finally agree to support those who were fighting it.

Many students felt the war's impact when the university decided to call back overseas January term travel courses. According to the January 18, 1991 edition, the decision to recall students in eight courses was prompted by "a mix of parental concern and a prudent response to a State Department terrorism alert." All of the approximately 200 students safely returned to America along with their course credits, despite not completing the classes. The university absorbed between $10,000 to $20,000 to bring students home early, according to the February 15 newspaper.

In the aftermath of the Gulf War, the February 21, 1992 *Argus* reported that education professor George Churukian would go to war-torn Kuwait as IWU's first faculty member to win a Fulbright Scholarship.

CHAPTER 5

Editorially Speaking

The Argus Knows Best

In its early years, *The Wesleyan Argus* pledged allegiance to "the Wesleyan," perhaps because the university press printed "The College Paper" and the faculty chose the editorial board. In fact, the faculty thought the selection of a responsible staff so important that the April 18, 1899 minutes reported, "The election of the Argus staff was made the special order for the next meeting." But if the university had twisted a few more student arms to guarantee participation, early staffs would have been hard pressed for editorial matter. One out of four editorials pleaded (with varying degrees of intensity) for students to "serve" their university newspaper. Like the staffs who would follow, the 1894 editors began with high energy and higher goals, outlining their ambitions in the first editorial of the year:

> we shall labor diligently to . . . publish a spicy and interesting paper for our fellow students to enjoy, a paper which will be loyal to the university and to the students. . . . If we succeed in our purpose, and put upon a firm basis a college paper of which the students will be proud, we shall feel well repaid for the arduous labor we know awaits us. (September 17)

Subsequent editorials revealed that Clarence E. Snyder's (1895) staff had no idea how arduous the labor would become. By January 14, 1895, editors were begging students to write for the newsaper, using a most transparent flattery: "We have in our midst abundant talent to fill several papers. . . . Let some of this super-abundance of ability be turned into the *Argus* channel."

Editors the following year tried guilt, instead. A series of editorials, all three titled "Write For The Argus," appealed to students' sense of duty: "[Editors] have their school work which must be attended to and the thought of the empty, hungry columns of the Argus is a burdensome one to them" (October 4, 1895); "Only by the hearty co-operation of the students can we hope to merit the support that has been granted us, nor will we be able to issue a paper that, in the truest sense, will be representative of the Wesleyan" (November 15, 1895). In the end, the editors resorted to strong-arm tactics, for the third editorial of the series reported, "We doubt if more than three or four of the contributed articles published this year have been voluntarily offered us" (April 4, 1896).

When *The Argus* wasn't recruiting writers, it was busy promoting other campus groups. Editor A.L. Wood (1896) and the 1895-96 editorial board used the power of the pen to boost participation in the nearly extinct Adelphic and Munsellian societies. When the newspaper proclaimed the literary societies to be "in a deplorable state" due to low membership, an October 4, 1895 editorial appealed to both Greek and independent students:

> College spirit should ever be stronger than "frat" spirit, and the best way for the Greeks to show whether there is anything to their claims for innate superiority is to smother their Hellenic prejudices and join enthusiasitically with their Barbarian friends in making the societies what they should be.

Student response was evident from the January 24, 1896 editorial, which observed, "It is gratifying to be able to note . . . that there is an increase of interest in the work of the literary societies." It was the first time in *Argus* history that an editorial had a significant impact on campus life.

School spirit and pride ran high during *The Argus'* first few decades, as illustrated by the 1899 staff's decision to reprint the commencement poem from the previous year—one which heralded Wesleyan as the "College of the Plains" (May 1). It's no wonder, then, that early editorials mostly promoted school loyalty and decorum. In addition to encouraging participation in everything from athletics to glee club, *The Argus* was almost parental in its bi-weekly editorials, advising students how to behave well and admonishing them when they didn't. Student pranks often fell victim to criticism from the editors, as in this response to one not-too-terribly-practical joke:

> We fail to see what pleasure was derived by placing the burro in chapel unless it was thought that the janitors did not already have enough work to keep them busy, or that his donkeyship would enjoy being carried up and down stairs. . . . Anyone who can gain enjoyment out of such performances is surely out of place in this institution, and has proven himself unfit for association with intelligent men and women. (April 10, 1896)

Illinois Wesleyan must have continued to admit "unfit" students, since the 1897 editorial board complained about IWU student fans at a contest hosted by crosstown rival Illinois State Normal University, where "recently the enthusiasm of a number of our students degenerated into vulgar rowdyism," though "we received fair and courteous treatment from Normal, and hope that she understands that the better sentiment of the Wesleyan frowns on such manifestations, and is determined to stamp them out" (November 20).

The 1898 editorial board preached moderation: "The recent 'pranks' committed by some of the students have had an enlivening effect upon the general student body. . . . When there is an evidence of friendly rivalry existing between different classes of students it points to a healthy condition of the college life." The newspaper declared that "as long as there is no serious rupture of law and order, such pranks may be indulged in with impunity" (December 15).

The Argus Learns to Talk (Back)

Although editorials from the first two decades replayed the same themes—show up for recitals, show up for debates, show up for football games, *always* go to chapel, and when you go to chapel, behave yourselves—by the turn of the century *The Argus* was bold enough to directly criticize the administration. In "A Question Of Rights" (April 15, 1899), the newspaper attacked a university policy which allowed the children of ministers and students studying for the clergy to pay only half of their $39 annual tuition and fees. *The Argus* reported that "not a few" students criticized the practice because it represented "an unjust discrimination exercised in giving to a certain class of students advantages which are denied to others." According to the editorial, some students who were receiving this privilege were quite capable of paying full tuition, while others who could not afford it struggled to pay. Despite *The Argus*' advice that some "remedy" be found which would offer similar discounts to those in need of financial aid, the ministerial tuition discount was offered until 1918.

The 1899 staff was a fiesty lot, for in the same issue they also took on another university practice, one shared by colleges all across the country. *The Argus* argued that the "'sheep-skin' and degree received upon the completion of a college course . . . are supposed to represent the fruits of hard study and conscientious work," and that "precaution be taken so that these emblems of mental worth and mental achievement be not cheapened or invalidated." The editors concluded that nothing cheapens a degree as much as "conferring degrees indiscriminately upon various dignitaries of state and church."

Faculty minutes from June 13 of that year recorded "a number of applications for honorary degrees," out of which a St. Louis judge, a local judge and a local minister were selected. Whether or not the Board of Trustees read *The Argus*, two days later they decided to limit or at least better control the awarding of honorary degrees. According to the June 15 minutes, the Board ordered "that no degrees hereafter be conferred by this university until they be first considered by the faculty and be submitted by the committee on degrees to this board."

In addition to printing more "conduct" editorials on walking quietly through the halls, being prompt for class and paying bills on time, turn-of-the-century *Argus* staffers were also consumer advocates—but with an ulterior motive. "Hearken Thou" (October 28, 1904) told readers, "Don't you for one moment believe that the payment of your subscription is all that is expected of you. . . . Nearly all of our ads are 'trade ads,' that is ads which are to be paid in merchandise or trade." Notes appeared throughout the newspaper reminding students, "It will pay you to read the ads" and "Mention *The Argus* when buying." Editors neglected to mention that *they* were the ones who received the goods and services from all trade ads—one of few "perks" in those days, and one which probably was never questioned as a potential conflict of interest or threat to free press.

As late as 1911, the staff also was using its editorial space to plead for a permanent newspaper office. In "Quarters For The Argus Staff" (January 25), they wrote that "at present there is not a single shelf or a drawer where material can

be held in common for use by the staff of editors." Their request fell on deaf ears, however, and editors did not find a permanent home until 1948, when *The Argus* moved to the basement of Buck Library.

A Method(ism) to their Madness

The first non-editorial opinion appeared in 1902. "The Observer," a column which ran only once, mocked students from the United States' "larger colleges." Through a Plato/Royko-style dialogue with "a young graduate," the anonymous columnist poked fun at the "educated lady's" discussion of all the subjects she was "finished with," and yet "she had not found out that the courses she took in geology, psychology, etc., were only doors to the larger field—knowledge as a whole. She had not caught a glimpse of the higher intellectual life beyond, which but reflects the higher moral life, yet she was educated" (December 4, 1902).

According to a November 25, 1905 editorial, devotion to a complete, moral education was one of Wesleyan's largest selling points and dearest ethics: "If you wish to loaf stay at home, we will have no drones in the Wesleyan," the editors wrote. "Loose mental habits breed loose physical habits and these in turn undermine morals and destroy character." After President Theodore Kemp told the newspaper, "I do not believe that the average student here is working as hard as he should," *The Argus* took no offense, but instead exhorted students to "buckle down to business and show . . . the faculty what we can do" (February 23, 1910).

It wasn't only self-discipline that concerned the 1910 staff. When the university suspended several students for hazing, *The Argus* neither defended nor condemned the sophomore "hair-cutting" tradition, but called for radical change:

> The methods used by the sophomores in initiating the freshmen were not held even by the freshmen themselves as acts of violence and vandalism. The cutting of the freshmen's hair has for a number of years been the standard Wesleyan joke. It can not be a surprise to anyone, then, since the whole body of students tacitly approved of the doings of the sophomores, that they should have sympathized to a man with the fellows who were suspended.

The editorial asked for what amounted to a fantasy: the establishment of a "student board of control of college discipline" to deal with such cases in the future.

For the most part, editorials from 1900-14 supported faculty policies. The December 21, 1911 *Argus* backed the faculty's new cheating policy which "would mean a very serious thing to the one convicted." The newspaper suggested that students adopt better study habits and that professors should remain in classrooms when administering exams.

Even when the university cracked down on another "vice"—dancing—*The Argus* supported the decision. A February 22, 1912 editorial tried to calm the "agitation . . . over the recent ruling of the faculty in regard to the question of dancing." Editors reported that from 1909-12 "a great number of dances have been given in the name of Wesleyan University, not directly by organizations of

the college but by alumni of the institution . . . contrary to the standards and laws set down by a Methodist institution." According to *The Argus*, this violation provoked a number of complaints from parents, enough that the faculty voted to bring "serious trouble" to any students caught dancing on campus. *The Argus* backed the faculty on its decision 100 percent, arguing that "every true, loyal student will feel that the new ruling will not be one to cause a decline in the pleasurable social side of Wesleyan society, but will mean much good for the whole institution and a better name for our university."

The university's dance ban must not have lasted long, for by the 1920s *The Argus* reported that the highlight of most fraternity parties was singing and dancing. A March 12, 1931 editorial congratulated Student Council for opting to hold an all-campus dance and hoped that "the faculty will be well represented as this is an affair for the entire school" (March 12, 1931).

The Argus' enthusiasm was not shared by members of the Board of Trustees who debated whether to ban the hedonistic practice for good. One Board member introduced this resolution:

> Whereas, on Saturday evening, April 18, 1931, there was held by the student body, for the first time in the history of the university, an all school dance in the Memorial Gymnasium, and, Whereas we, the Board of Trustees and Official Visitors of the Illinois Wesleyan University, believe that such functions lower the moral and spiritual plane that the school has maintained since its organization . . . be it Resolved, that hereafter no dancing by any group, sorority, fraternity, or by the student body as a whole, shall be permitted or allowed on the campus of the Illinois Wesleyan University, nor shall the Illinois Wesleyan University permit or allow the student body to hold an "all school dance" off the campus, and be it further Resolved, that these resolutions be published in the Bloomington Pantagraph, the Wesleyan Argus, and a copy be spread upon the records of the university.

The Argus never received a copy to publish, because, as the June 8 minutes recorded, "after considerable discussion, a motion to adopt was lost."

In 1917, *The Argus* came to the defense of the young men on campus who were preparing to become ministers. When the "scholastic standing of the various organizations in Wesleyan was posted in the main hall a few days ago" and the Oxford Club, "an organization composed of the young men who are preparing for the ministry . . . received no little 'gaff' due to the fact that the preachers stood at the bottom of the class," the editors wrote that "the joke has been carried far enough," and with rhetorical flair set the record straight:

> It was due to no crooked work on the part of the one who averaged the grades that the "chicken eaters" were forced to accept the cellar championship. Neither was it due to the fact that same bunch is composed of a lot of weak-minded clodhoppers. In fact a comparison of individual grades would reveal some most excellent marks secured by the young divines at the close of last semester. (March 1)

The editorial pointed out that the "sole cause of the low standing" was that three of the fifteen Oxford Club members were forced to miss school because of illness, and because all three "drew zero grades in all the work carried during half the year" the "loss was too great for even the higher averages made by several of the others to over-balance."

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

In 1912, editor Wayne W. Calhoun ('13) was the first to expand the editorial page to include opinions other than those of the staff. In "Equity" he concluded that "if the paper is the college paper with the college news on its pages then the opinion should be the college opinion" (March 11, 1912). Calhoun outlined a plan to achieve a healthy balance by publishing "all the beliefs of the college men and women" in a column to be captioned "Public Opinion." He decided to publish the letters anonymously, so when the first appeared on March 25, it was signed only, "A Junior." It also took students a while to grasp the concept of a free-speech forum. One student all but genuflected in signing his letter "I am yours for the welfare of the ARGUS," while another letter closed, "If this suggestion [to improve the condition of Wilder Field] meets with your approval, I would thank you for the space in this column to give it to the students" (April 26, 1912). The editors added an endnote explaining that

> the real purpose of . . . this column was that any individual whose beliefs on college affairs conflicted with those of the Argus . . . might have the advantage of an open column. Thus any consevative opinion no matter on what subject, agreeing or disagreeing is entitled to a place in this column.

By 1990s standards, other letters printed as columns were as conservative as they were few in number. "An Underclassman Student" suggested that seniors be shown more respect (as at other universities) because it would "add much to the dignity of the school" (April 11, 1912), while another politely asked that students receive more time to get from chapel to their next class. When school began again in the fall, editors revived the column but added a new wrinkle and a disclaimer: "This year, articles must be signed, and the name of the writer will be published. The editor assumes no responsibility for articles published but reserves the right to return letters deemed unsuited for publication" (October 10). The new rules apparently scared students off, since the following issue published the Public Opinion banner with no letters underneath it. When the first "letter" finally appeared in the December 12 issue, it was under a new banner—"Current Comment"—and turned out to be nothing more than an exchange reprint from Nicholas Murray Butler, then president of Columbia University. Until the 1916-17 school year, editors used Current Comment strictly for quotes from famous people, announcements of other campus events and pronouncements from non-IWU academics.

The campus never really warmed to the idea of a public forum, even when editors returned to a policy of anonymous contribution. Only a few letters appeared over the next seven years, and even then they were none too controver-

sial. "Another Junior," for example, wanted the university to designate a regular night for YMCA prayer meetings (December 12, 1917). As editors would lament in the January 21, 1921 issue, "Practically every year an effort has been made to get student life to express itself. Practically every year The Argus has had a Department of Public Opinion which has just been taken on faith and never been put into use." In their plea, editors asked for letters but conceded, in an effort to elicit more of a response, "we will ask you to sign the article, although your name will not be used in publishing it unless you desire."

That ploy also failed. Except for a few letters from off-campus writers, real non-editorial opinions did not appear again until October 14, 1926, when *The Argus* printed a serious guest editorial on academic effort by William Jaques ('27), along with phoney letters to the editor obviously intended for the entertainment of readers.

Flappers and Professors

If the editorial page is any indicator, Wesleyan students were as caught up by questions of moral behavior as young people everywhere. But while their counterparts let loose, Wesleyan students buckled down to help fashion an image that, in 1994, still persists: IWU as a study-minded institution. A March 17, 1922 editorial compared what would later be called the "Lost Generation" to the Roman empire at the start of its decline. The writer, who called himself a "Roman Fan," bemoaned that everywhere

> it's jazz, jazz, jazz, all the time jazz. Where will it end? The women with their wine drinking and all that. They have lost the virtues that put Rome where she is today. And the men. They are nothing but lounge lizards. They no longer display Roman manhood, but are becoming soft and effeminate.

Likewise, a June 2, 1922 editorial on "The Flapper Again!" observed that "The Flapper is so much discussed in the papers and in conversation these days that it is becoming tiresome." The editors wrote that they "did not cast any reflections" on the writers who are "advancing theories on the modern girl and her conduct," but questioned, "aren't there other things that are very dangerous to the young people of today, that are being ignored . . ?"

College itself was apparently among the hazards. A January 22, 1925 editorial polled professors (all wanting their names withheld) in order to answer the age-old question, "Why Do College Students Flunk?" The survey drew responses that would have rattled Dr. Gallup himself. The first cause of failure on Wesleyan's campus? "Some students are 'rattle brained' or lacking in real mental capacity to grasp the facts presented . . . One professor asserts that 10 per cent of all college students are in the group of the mentally unfit." The second "class" included

> the student who hasn't learned how to think . . . then there is the lazy student who may have gray matter but it is largely unfarrowed. . . . Another type of student is the one who is 'just going to college' . . . a

ship without a sail, drifting and consequently doesn't get far.

The leading cause listed may sound familiar to students since the 1920s: "too many irons in the fire." The editorial concluded that the faculty was sympathetic, but advised that "students are here through their own choice, and if other climes seem fairer they are free to try these other climes."

According to *The Argus*, the university's image was growing during the 1920s. While F. Scott Fitzgerald was writing about *The Great Gatsby*, *Argus* staffers were writing about a "Greater Wesleyan," describing a school which, after years of hard work and sacrifice, had finally arrived to occupy "a pinnacle, a mountain height, a spot in the sun" (April 8, 1924). Editors embraced the "new rules, higher tuition" ($185 per year) and stricter grading as a necessary student "contribution." But the editorial board also related the anecdote of a recent high school graduate who said, "Me go to Wesleyan? I guess not! I'll never go to that preacher's college, they're too strict." In closing, editors embraced a frequent theme, calling for voluntary chapel attendance so that high school seniors wouldn't be "frightened away to another market by the rumors" of dissatisfaction at Wesleyan.

The March 10, 1927 editorial argued, after learning that IWU was the only school at a local conference to have a faculty member on its student council, to "can" the faculty member (March 10, 1927). (In 1932-33, the constitution of the new Student Union would make the faculty member an adviser only, with no voting power and "subject to removal at the discretion of the Student Union.") Another editorial argued that "Campus 'Cans' Should be Barred"—"cans," in this case, meaning cars:

> There is a rapidly growing tendency among college men to believe that a university is a place to learn and ride. . . . Campuses resemble automobile shows nowadays, and gas stations rival bookstores in business proceeds. The young plutocrat parks his snaky roadster beside the Omicron Omicron Ford, and cut down flivver rub fenders with furnished limousines. Students study between jaunts, and a recalcitrant motor means more than a flunk. The boy whose car carries the doggiest signs and cleverest novelties eclipses the A student in popularity. (May 7, 1926)

Editors wondered

> how on earth one can learn when he owns a "wreck"? The odds are too great. The thought of an open road is more alluring than the thought of an open tome, and a purring motor is more fascinating than an instructor's voice. What young man wouldn't prefer to take out a co-ed rather than a library book? Automobiles are too expensive for the college youth . . . gas, oil and general upkeep run into big numbers. The cheapest car costs at least seven cents per mile to operate. Campus 'cans' are a black eye to any school. Parents look with disfavor upon a college which looks like a race track. A college town that is cluttered up with freak automotive apparatuses gives a bad impression to numberless prospective students.

Other editorials called for students to develop charm, good sportsmanship and school spirit.

Are We Informed Yet?

Editors near the end of the 1930s asked, "Are we informed [about national issues]?" And a quick perusal of the decade's editorials provides the answer: not hardly, since only a handful dealt with national issues. Even Hitler's rise to prominence only provoked this curiously detached editorial, printed here in its entirety:

> History was made last week by the man whom the *New York Times* calls the most powerful leader the German people have ever known in the history of their country. Adolf Hitler drove over to Austria, his birthplace, and changed the map of Europe. Now people are wondering whether he will continue his ride over to Czechoslovakia. Watch closely, students, this is *history*. (March 16, 1938)

Most editorials were concerned with traffic closer to home. The February 19, 1931 issue included a quote from Uncle Tom: "It shore looks bade. De Profs shore is gwine to make it tough on us poor kids. The first ting yu know dey will start a campaign agin de girls reserves and de boy scouts cause de kids might be enjoyin demselves." To that, the editors added, "We are almost of the same opinion, Uncle Thomas. There is now a resolution on foot to keep the students from running to class. This won't affect Wesleyan folks, however for it's a tough enough job to even get them there." The same issue featured a Swiftian "Modest Proposal" which, tongue in cheek, suggested that the curriculum be revamped to focus on athletics, along with a straightforward editorial calling for the administration to institute a "one semester probation period" for all faculty hired. Administrators and faculty must have thought they had picked up an April Fool's issue to read the *Argus* proposal, whereby

> At the end of the semester we could call the student body together—those who have had contact with [the professor]—and vote their approval or disapproval. If the professor has proven his ability during this period, a student committee can recommend him to the board and his contract can be drawn up. If he is found unfavorable to the students, dismiss him.

Again, to no one's surprise, the suggestion prompted no great reform.

How progressive were students of the time? A January 17, 1939 editorial included a brief list on "Argus Projects for Progressive Wesleyan":

1. A live student body.
2. Organized cheering.
3. Pep Band uniforms.
4. Support of Student Lounge.
5. Desirable Chapel programs.

Other editorials of the decade dealt with chapel behavior, "selling" IWU to friends and other prospective students, laughing in the library, fraternity rush rules and Wesleyan's "eyesore" (Wilder Field). Another praised the start of

"Wesleyan Night School," a 12-week offering of "eight practical business courses in addition to fifteen general cultural courses" to be offered "to interested townspeople." Editor Virgil Martin praised the plan. "The name 'Wesleyan' will now become synonymous with the names of other institutions, such as Scripps in the West, Harvard in the East and Rollins in the South," he wrote (March 9, 1932).

Students were indeed image-conscious. An editorial seven years later began,

> Once upon a time, there was a college in the middle west. It wasn't a very big college, but everyone says that quality is better than quantity, anyhow. The students of this college were very proud of their school, and dreamed of the time when everyone from coast to coast would recognize its name. There was just one thing lacking. The students didn't have any place where they could relax, or play cards, or dance, or just listen to the radio. (February 21, 1939)

The editor went on to praise the administration for providing a student lounge, but wished that it had not fallen into such disuse that the lounge was eventually closed.

The Home Fires

Despite the war in Europe, old topics continued to find space in the editorial pages, among them student behavior in chapel—or rather, *mis*behavior:

> Paper airplanes still persist in assembly. Granted (and we don't) that the balcony dive bombers are British, we can hardly accuse the main floor of being Nazi followers—therefore, why the barrage? (May 28, 1941)

Yet, three days after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, an *Argus* editorial reported that "Amidst all the excitement the students on this campus have remained sane; they have not gone into hysteria. These are the proof of an intelligent and educated body" (December 10, 1941).

Indeed, intelligent student concerns forced the editorial page to expand to a "double truck" to accommodate all the letters that would fill two pages on the average—letters for which editors had been pleading for more than four decades. In one issue, for example, an editorial on "What Lies Ahead" recognized that "the thought of isolationism" is gone and urged the people of the United States to "accept their responsibility as World citizens" (January 14, 1942). It also contained a letter from editor Dale Mehrhoff ('42), who wrote, "The most maddening thing I have ever done is to read the Argus files of 1917-18," adding that he hoped the United States would profit from the lesson of the first war, as well as the war in progress. *The Argus* also chose to print a letter to a Wesleyan music major from her brother, who was serving in the Hawaii Territorial Guard when Pearl Harbor was bombed. He gave this eyewitness account:

> The radio announced it in the morning during the attack. The anti-aircraft guns were firing all over. Until 3 Japanese planes dived very low over River St. I thought it was all Maneuvers. I saw the emblem of this Rising Sun on the wing tips. . . . The populace are all heated over the discriminate bombing of civilians. . . . Do all you can for our Country. Economize.

Ironically, a guest editorial in that same January 14 issue called not for economization, but for extra lighting in Hedding Hall. "Wesleyan's darkest hours are not the war years ahead," the anonymous author wrote, alluding to Franklin D. Roosevelt's radio address, "but are indeed those hours spent in Hedding Hall between 8:00 A.M. and approximately 5:00 P.M."

Apparently, IWU students were not alone in their provincial thinking. The February 18, 1941 editorial page featured the results of a nationwide college survey and reported that "almost half of the men are planning to do engineering work, to teach, or to go into private business. Comparatively little pessimism was manifest upon the campuses over the country." Life went on.

In addition to speaking out on civilian morale and patriotism—"Fifteen Points, Be On Guard Against Axis Propaganda!" and "Let's Beat The Axis with Brains!" (April 15, 1942)—students were drawn to more immediate home-front concerns. The January 28, 1941 issue devoted its editorial to the new end-of-semester exam schedule. In previous years, a final exam week had been set aside for two-hour tests; "this year exams [were] given the last week of the semester during the regular class hours." According to *The Argus*, both professors and students blasted the soon-to-be-scrapped system. The editorial pointed out that if the idea was not good enough for "the school down the street" five years ago when they tried it, why would the administration think it would be effective for Illinois Wesleyan now?

During a time when Wesleyan women were making scrapbooks for the U.S.O. and the campus was raising money for the bond effort, one seemingly frivolous open letter from "The Girls of Wesleyan" caused a big stir. The writers complained that not enough men showed up for dances, and when they did, they arrived with off-campus dates. The "girls" challenged every fraternity and men's club to "require their pledges and their members to have one Wesleyan date a week" (February 11, 1941). A week later the editors reported that "whether the girls struck a sore spot" or not,

> only two men undertook the task of answering the girls' letter and both of them failed to sign their names, which automatically prohibits us from printing them. Several ugly threats were made by various 'men about the campus' regarding what they would tell the girls by giving a return performance on The Argus editorial page, but somehow these rumors failed to materialize. (February 18, 1941)

The editors called for responses, "caustic or otherwise," but the men never spoke out. According to the February 25 *Argus*, as a direct result of the letter, a "Spinster Week" would give Wesleyan women the chance to initiate the dating, carry books, open doors, and handle other chivalrous tasks in a week endorsed by "all four leading student organizations": Pan Hellenic, Independent Women, Inter-Fraternity Council and Independent Men. Phyllis Ann Smith ('42), president of Pan Hellenic, told *The Argus* that females "were glad of an opportunity to show the men how it should be done and that the girls would enter into the project with some of the enthusiasm which seems to be lacking in the conduct of the men."

Other wartime editorials called for victory gardens, paid tribute to war correspondent Ernie Pyle and Franklin D. Roosevelt, questioned "hell week" during wartime and espoused what it meant to be an American. On November 8, 1944, the editors chided students for having "proved how much they think of our fellows fighting overseas, when they failed to support last week's drive for funds to mail the Homecoming edition of the Argus to them." One week later, a sarcastic editorial gave the update: only $11.50 was counted in the "cigar collection box." Eventually, with the cooperation of the Alumni Office and Gummerman's Printing, *The Argus* sent the special October 25, 1944 issue overseas to 910 men and women in the military.

In the 1940s, columns frequently appeared on the editorial pages. The most prevalent and long-standing was "The Green Room," written by a succession of people—a mixture of theatre reviews and backstage gossip. Occasionally the column reviewed speakers on campus, and when Wallace Dace ('43) called a visiting professor's chapel talk "a 50-minute torrent of interventionist propaganda," so full of "rot" that he could "scarcely refrain from laughing at him," a letter followed. Two students complained that the column was "entirely out of place in a college newspaper" (May 20). And while they said that they believed it "vital to the [economic, rather than political] life of America that Hitler be defeated," they concluded that "no safe policies and actions are going to be molded by the aroused temper, sarcasm, and confusion that were exhibited in the above mentioned article."

Although it ran on the society pages instead of editorial, "The Witcher" was loaded with opinions. The Hollywood-style column told all and aggravated most. On a small, private campus, few students appreciated reading their names in the highly personal column. Certainly not Barb, who had to read that "since her split with Johnnie, has been seen with Wilfred, Ken, and Buck." And certainly not the Sigma Chis, after one of their members was reported as wanting "to de-pin a cute Kappa initiate," which "seems to be a habit with these Sigs to carry on their custom of cut-throating" (February 25, 1942).

It's no surprise that the column was sporadic, running most consistently from 1935-36 and 1941-42. While it was around, however, it produced its share of letters to the editor. One student complained, "Who's business is it if a girl wears a fraternity pin within the confines of her own sorority house, or if a fellow doesn't choose to date on campus but carry a torch? I, for one, do not believe it is mine—nor is it reading material for the Wesleyan student body" (March 4, 1942). Shortly thereafter, The Witcher went from page three to page none—though columns like "With Malice Towards Some . . ." would rise up to take its place, beginning in 1946.

Postwar Years: The Beat Goes On

The war may have ended, but the struggle had only begun. Open letters from the American Red Cross reminded students that their donations and sacrifices

were still much needed. That sentiment was echoed in a May 26, 1946 editorial which called for each student to help by not leaving "a half-eaten roll on his plate or in any other way waste that commodity which is so vital to millions on the other side of the globe." Most IWU students apparently were willing to continue giving. As in wartime, *The Argus* reported the many fundraising and morale-boosting activities of fraternities, sororities and campus clubs. This issue told of 30 soldiers from the Mayo hospital in Galesburg who were to be guests at a Kappa Delta picnic and dance, with more such "entertainments for convalescent soldiers" to be sponsored by the campus Red Cross unit.

A few students, however, were less giving. The following week's editorial tried to explain to complainers why the Tuesday night "starvation meal" was instituted. In accordance with Herbert Hoover's admonition that "it is unthinkable that we do not feed our enemies," *The Argus* reasoned that starving humans were "more like ravenous beasts than like men, and if we ignore the starving we are condemning our soldiers to perpetual danger and uprising." Money saved from the missed Tuesday meals would be donated to the cause.

One of the most poignant editorials came from a senior who put the wartime years in perspective, musing, "Who would have dreamed, starting to college in the fall of 1942, that so much could happen in four short years?"

> The war was something to be puzzled over during newsreels at the Irvin, and to be replaced in its own mental cubbyhole immediately afterwards. House parties were not pleasant good times; they were breathless wonders. (June 19, 1946)

That senior also recalled "that fatal January night" when Hedding Hall burned, and the "V-5 Cadets walking gigs under extremely unfavorable climatic conditions on Saturday night" her sophomore year. "Somehow we felt a bit lost and lonely," she wrote, and "It wasn't just a matter of dates. . . . Now we are seniors, and the boys are back—different a little, perhaps—assured, independent."

With the burden of war lifted, *The Argus* editorial pages quickly lightened. A September 17, 1947 issue complained that while "we're glad to be back . . . Bloomington is no 'Pearl of the Midwest' as far as entertainment goes. In fact, things are so slow around here I've been thinking of opening a dairy where bored couples may come to milk the heck out of a couple of cows to liven up an evening." Yet, the same page featured another editorial which urged, "Come on, Chillun—Le's Dance." For a measly $1.33, Wesleyan's 1281 students could buy a season ticket to the "three biggest all-school dances of the year," the first one featuring Freddie Nagel, "who will shuttle down from the [Chicago] Palmer House in time for Wesleyan's 1947 Homecoming."

Noting that "Bob Ripley himself, some years ago, made public the fact that Franklin Avenue, Bloomington-Normal, is the only street in the world with a university at either end," editor Bob Holmes and his cohort Alice Stanbery lauded the joint meeting of the IWU and State Normal student councils, who gathered to develop a plan for more cooperation between the two universities.

Signed, sealed and delivered: At Wesleyan, students are never treated like just another number (date unknown).

Suggestions included mutual use of libraries, academic integration, talent show exchanges and joint concert ventures (November 19, 1947).

In general, however, editorials shrank, letters and persuasive/expressive columns dwindled, and the editorial double-truck went back to a single lorry. Editors in the post-war, pre-Kennedy years seldom criticized the administration, though the majority of letters to the editor often griped about *Argus* coverage or mistakes. Staffs responded in various ways. One letter-writer who voiced an

oblique complaint about the way organizations ran the 1949 Homecoming saw his letter printed in *The Argus*; but below it, an editor's response picked his letter apart paragraph by paragraph, scolding, "Thanks for your letter, Mr. X, but in the future, if you have any gripe, or better still, a verbal orchid for someone, organize your thoughts and come right to the point. Okay?" (October 26, 1949). Other letter-writers would prompt a similar dual-treatment, while a later editorial took the whole campus to task:

> The Argus has come under criticism from departmental and organizational heads who feel that we do not give them complete news coverage. We do not have the facilities or the time to track down every item we hear rumors about, nor can we cover events that we do not even know are going to take place. Furthermore, we cannot give complete coverage to events when someone calls up the print shop and says, "I forgot to tell you about this, but . . . I would like that in tomorrow's Argus. (January 18, 1950)

Like editors who would follow, they placed the burden on departmental and organizational heads. But not all letters were cranky. Some wrote to give students a fresh perspective. One former "faculty pinch hitter" wrote to say how shocked he was by the new rules for the Memorial Center published the previous week:

> Card playing, smoking and dancing! What is happening? I well recall the two weeks' suspension imposed in 1915 on 105 Wesleyan students for attending a "Wesleyan" dance. . . . The faculty now includes some broadminded thinkers whose influence is being felt and appreciated . . . Catholics and Jews are not any longer just tolerated on the campus, but they are now welcomed and are taking their places among the campus leaders. Truly Wesleyan is growing up. (November 12, 1947)

The author was right. Even when McCarthyism swept the nation, Wesleyan students kept their heads. A three-part series of editorials on "Campus Commies" recapped investigations on colleges across the nation. Editors cautioned that while current reports identified communist elements primarily on larger campuses, "this fact must not be misinterpreted to mean that the problem of American subjection to communist infiltration is no closer to Wesleyan students than the nearest Big Nine campus" (January 21, 1948). To their credit, editors also recognized that "the problem is complicated" because Communism advocates the elimination of racial prejudice and the institution of an "ultimate international peace and cooperation," ideas which appeal to right-thinking Americans. "The essence of the problem is to distinguish between progressive and anti-American activity," they concluded. No witch-hunts took place on the Wesleyan campus. In fact, when the campus was polled later that year, students were overwhelmingly against outlawing the U.S. Communist Party.

In 1948, polls frequently appeared in the editorial pages on such topics as Sunday morning fellowship (students against), compulsory chapel (women for, men against), a get-tough policy for Russia (men for, women against), universal

military training (men for, women against), faculty crackdown on cheating (students for) and the new-look longer hem lines (males against).

Mostly, the editorial pages took on a lighter tone, with a column, "Under the Arch," by "Brown," offering such tidbits of wisdom as "The weaker sex is the stronger sex because of the weakness of the stronger sex for the weaker sex. Amen" (April 26, 1950). With the exception of a brief-but-playful exchange of letters on the battle of the sexes from authors who signed off as Clark Kent, Lois Lane and Wonder Woman, the editorial pages throughout the remainder of 1950s were fairly tame and institutionalized. A housemotherly *Argus* praised Student Senate, scolded Senate, called for school spirit, denounced cheating and advised students to slow down when driving through campus. A Student Senate "President's Corner" occassionally appeared, as did a regular "Faculty Corner," where one professor bluntly told students, "That I am not a popular teacher does not bother me. The student goes to college for learning his subject, not for adoring the teacher" (February 10, 1954). Physics professor Harold P. Stephenson's column was more flattering:

> Since I first came to Wesleyan, the similarity between it and my own school, Duke University, has impressed me as a very striking one. If the number of students and faculty here at Wesleyan were multiplied by a factor of about eight and a few Gothic buildings were added to the campus, a reasonable facsimile of Duke would be obtained. . . . The best students and faculty at Wesleyan would feel very much at home with the very best students and faculty at Duke. (March 3, 1954).

The most unsettling problem that seemed to occur at Wesleyland was the apparently irregular hours of Buck Library, which prompted a December 5, 1956 editorial calling for Buck to remain open to its advertised 9:30 p.m. closing time. Like most editorials of the decade, this one generated no official response.

Most of the time, editors reached for editorial topics, as indicated by the 1958 three-part series on the "Beat Generation"—the poetry-loving counter culture of the late 1950s. The October 10, 1958 *Argus* reprinted an editorial from the *Notre Dame Scholastic* that beat up on the Beats: "Perhaps it is best that the 'Beat Generation' retreat to the hideaways and moan to themselves about the ill way they have been treated. Their lack of emotional and mental stability certainly could never allow them to be responsible leaders." Guest editorials in the following weeks agreed with the *Scholastic*, with one wryly observing, "So ours is a 'Beat Generation,' is it? This is most unfortunate. But don't worry your heads about it. After all, there will be another, more fashionable term for the Age of Our Children."

White Paper, Red Ink

In October 1963, the Board of Trustees released what became known as the "White Paper," which outlined what it meant for the university to be affiliated with the Methodist Church. Drafted and delivered by IWU President Lloyd Bertholf, the Paper noted that while the Church "in no way" exerts any "control

or direction over the policies, curriculum, program, or personnel of the University," in such matters as "public relations and finances" the Methodist Church has been "most valuable." In grappling with what it meant to be church-related, Bertholf and the Board concluded that it implied "an obligation to keep humbly searching for the truth." But because they also saw the university as a "comradeship of faith," they reasoned,

> Therefore, as a Christian university, we are seeking to have a faculty that shares essentially the kind of faith . . . that is expressed in the Bible, particularly the New Testament. The questions a prospective member of Illinois Wesleyan faculty or administrative staff needs to ask . . . are: "Can I warmly support such an attitude and do I desire to contribute to the enhancement of such an atmosphere?" We assume that nearly everyone who answers the above questions in the affirmative will be an active member of some church. To any who are not, we feel we have the right to ask, "Why not?"

While the Board did not specify if they would reject an applicant because of his or her beliefs, the White Paper antagonized both faculty and students. For weeks, letters filled the editorial pages just as the campus community filled the room when the university's new hiring policy was aired—a meeting where "Only one voice in the audience was raised favoring the trustees' position, Dr. William Bennett, and he was jeered" (December 6, 1963).

One sarcastic letter came from a fictional Japanese applicant, a "Graduate of Tokyo High . . . member in good standing of Shinto Temple. . . . But will teach Judeo-Christian Chemistry," while a carefully reasoned letter from "S.S." (*The Argus* business manager) expressed concern that the new restrictions could cost Wesleyan some talented faculty who would teach elsewhere. Scott Scrimshire ('64) also added a subjective note: "Personally, I question the true sincerity of any member of the Board of Trustees that cancels $176 worth of future advertising in the school paper the day after the panel discussion" (November 22, 1963).

A regular columnist writing as "Charles Martel" marvelled that the White Paper turned the campus so quickly on its head and concluded that "the Trustees seem more interested in money than in any sort of academic ideal." By contrast, the staff editorial reasoned that the newly clarified Methodist affiliation might make IWU different enough from other private schools so that more donations would follow, sparing students further tuition increases.

Faculty were understandably the most agitated. Professor S. Matthew Prastein charged the university with adopting a "new and narrow definition of education . . . bound to result in the elimination of meaningful contact between the student and that vast segment of the world that differs from him." Prastein argued that when he came to Illinois Wesleyan "it was devoted, not to Christian Education, but to education of Christians" (December 6, 1963). Another professor, Pedro Juan Labarthe, vowed that he would not use his classroom "to convince Shinto students or Unitarian students or Jewish students or Atheist stu-

dents" to believe in his God, nor if he were an Atheist would he use the classroom to "destroy the faith" of Christian students. "It is criminal to destroy any faith," he wrote (December 6).

Two years after the heated debate, Bertholf and the Board released a revised statement in the November 12, 1965 *Argus* with the objectionable portions toned down. Instead of it being essential for "a teacher" to teach from the Judeo-Christian perspective, the document was changed to read "most teachers"; instead of stimulating theological conversation "within the framework of the Judeo-Christian faith," the university now wished to encourage "a variety of theological points of view." And "Most [faculty] will belong to Protestant churches, but membership in a non-Protestant church will not disqualify a candidate." As Bertolf wrote in his memoirs, "If I had realized how difficult it would be to write a religious statement that would be widely understood in the way intended, I never would have attempted it." The November 12 *Argus* supported the second White Paper, noting that "the revised edition has complied with requests to maintain flexibility as a Methodist-related university."

Student Unrest: From Food Fights to Civil Rights

When Pat Geise, a junior nursing major, was killed by a hit and run driver, the March 16, 1962 editorial demanded answers: "Who was responsible? Was it the driver of the car who was in no condition to drive responsibly? Was it the bartender in whose establishment the driver became in this condition? Was it inadequate police enforcement . . ?"

But it was the 1960s, and students everywhere were beginning to question everything—especially authority. Early signs of student unrest and protest were evident as students returned to campus in the fall of 1963. A September 20 editorial complained about the lack of respect shown at the first all-school convocation:

> There were examples of irreverent sit-down strikes during the singing of the Alma Wesleyana; there were scattered snickers during the serious parts of the two addresses; sleeping and snoring in the balconies; and even a few hot hands were seen in hidden card games.

But judging from the editorials and from the number of exhortations by faculty and students to awaken from their slumber, Wesleyan students were far less rebellious than students elsewhere. If anything, *Argus* staffers during the early 1960s seemed more conservative than others on campus. In response to magazine articles which called American college students complacent, compared to students in other countries, editors wrote,

> It is true that students in America's universities have long been more interested in unspectacular, gradual change than radical reform. . . . America's greatness has stemmed from the fact that its revolution was not handled by a group of hot-headed, idealistic college students, but . . . by a group of mature and experienced statesmen . . . . The campus is a place to learn about revolutions and the problems that cause them. It is not a place to start them. (January 21, 1963)

Nonetheless, one "Soapbox" column complained about taxation, another about Barry Goldwater, a review-column proclaimed "Anti-Intellectualism Hits Campus," and a full-page staff editorial printed a tiny 14-point reminder on an all-white page: "Don't Complain Next Year Unless You Vote in the Primaries Monday!"

If nothing else, the 1960s brought life to the editorial page. A single *Argus* often contained more substance than a year of editorials from other eras. The October 4, 1963 issue featured a column in which Charles Martel was spoiling for a fight ("At last we have a controversy—the campus is tightening its monetary belt because some overambitious chairman spent our money in advance"), a reprint on the "ethical rebel," a column arguing for non-required class attendance for upperclassmen and a lengthy and complicated staff editorial favoring the Kerr-Mills [medical assistance] Bill.

Other editorials called for "No Wheat For Russia" and suggested caution before abandoning the "moon race"—the latter prefaced by a disclaimer that "any parallels or similarities" to an Art Buchwald syndicated column "are not intentional" (November 8, 1963). On this suddenly issue-minded and well-read campus, editors noted with surprise that an all-school Campus Chest Hootenanny sponsored by Student Senate drew 500 students, and "by the end of the program every student was really spirited, which is a word seldom expressed on the Wesleyan campus" (November 15, 1963).

When President Kennedy was assassinated, *The Argus* paid tribute, like other college newspapers, in a December 6 editorial, observing that "this country which Mr. Kennedy had had so much confidence in and had given his all, his America—our America—was still moving forward." But in the next issue, quite *unlike* other college papers, editors complained that the Kennedy tributes had gotten out of hand:

> The first thing that the Johnson Administration did was to change the name of Cape Canaveral to Cape Kennedy. . . . Instead of the Peace Corps we have the Kennedy Corps. Instead of the Northwest Expressway we have the John Kennedy Expressway [in Chicago]. Instead of Idlewild Field in New York City we have Kennedy Field. Instead of Bloomington, Illinois we may have Kennedy, Illinois. . . . Let's come to our senses and stop ranking John F. Kennedy alongside George Washington and Abraham Lincoln! (December 13, 1963)

The editorial argued that a "broad-minded view over the past three years will reveal that Kennedy's widespread proposals for this country never got off the ground," and that he was undeserving of the extended honors.

Even more surprising than the radical rhetoric, editors chose to print a faculty member's poetic tribute to Kennedy on the same page. But a look at decade after decade of *Argus* indicates that the 1960s were pivotal in that editors began packing the opinion pages with strong commentaries—even if they ran counter to the staff's beliefs.

Neither protests nor parties could get too out of hand, since Wesleyan had its own version of anti-assembly laws. According to a February 5, 1965 editorial, the university's "code book" [student handbook] stated that "six or more members of a group, gathered together at any time, constitutes an official party of that group. If the party is not scheduled and the administration finds out about it then the group is in trouble." The editorial noted that the regulation was put into effect in order to "protect organizations from being punished for the actions of just two or three individuals, and the rule has never been enforced." Though editors chided the Social and Welfare Commission for having nothing better to do than dispute a dormant rule, they urged adoption of the proposed change to "a new fifteen-man rule," just to be on the safe side. However, it never became an issue and no record of a change—or enforcement—appears in university records.

In 1965 the administration tried to replace exam week again, thereby alleviating the "hysteria of last minute cramming, staying up all night, and all other horrendous schemes that students dream up." Once again, the one-hour, last-week-of-the-semester exams were none too popular. One student complained in a January 7, 1966 letter that he found himself facing "new material up until the very last day before the final exam. Some students even had four and five tests on any given day."

Along with the rest of the nation, Wesleyan students in the 1960s displayed a not-too-quiet dissatisfaction with the university they attended. Even *The Argus* complained that "students will either walk up to the editor and begin a tirade, or else they will walk around campus muttering curses beneath their breath" (February 15, 1963). The tone of the average student letters was apparent from the headlines: "Student Letters Express Discontent," or "Column Creates Comment."

In the February 15 issue, guest columnist Jim Ruoti ('63) got on "The Soapbox" to complain, "I am one of the unfortunate students at IWU who had to pay the full one-thousand dollars tuition." But that was only his lead-in. Ruoti's real beef was that he claimed the Public Relations Department had been telling students that, unlike larger schools, they would never have a graduate student for an instructor. "True," Ruoti conceded, "but . . . you might have an undergraduate student teaching you instead!" Ruoti accused the university of short-changing part-time faculty and concluded, "until Wesleyan decides [to pay adjunct faculty at least $600 per course] we students will remain in the deep abyss of ignorance." Apparently the university held no grudge—either that, or they wanted the persuasive Ruoti on their side—since they hired him as an admissions counselor immediately after he graduated. Ruoti has served as director of admissions since 1970 and received dean status in 1991.

Food was the focus in fall 1966, when *The Argus* received its longest letter—if 113 student signatures count. The students were fed up with "the sameness of food, week after week, year after year," and wondered, "Do french fries always have to be served with meat loaf?" (October 14). Even the editors got into the

act: "First there was chop suey and rice; then there was chop suey and canned chow mein noodles; and then, ah then, there was chop suey and Cap'n Crunch" which greeted the last in the Commons meal line.

Three weeks later, an editorial reported that the Student Union Commission food committee brought the matter to the President's Cabinet. But student complaints also aired over WIOK's "Hot Line," according to *The Argus*, and some students distributed flyers containing "vicious personal attacks" the day of the Board of Trustees meeting. Editors chided those who were "jamming the local airwaves" or employing "witchburning techniques," but praised students who went through proper channels to make a difference. On the day the newspaper hit the stands, a consultant from the Associated Colleges of Illinois was on campus to "examine and freely alter menus, service procedures and personnel organization." And on January 10, 1969, *The Argus* reported that the university had contracted with Saga Food Service to provide meals for the Commons and Dug Out areas. The new food service stressed "student satisfaction" and would make a manager accessible to students at mealtimes for comments and criticism.

Argus staffs soon felt an obligation to take the forefront in such reforms, however major or minor. Writers began to feel it was their right and obligation to report what went on behind the doors of Holmes Hall. But asking questions was one thing; getting answers was quite another. A November 17, 1967 editorial complained that while IWU had been progressive in its inclusion of students on standing faculty committees, "now very few bodies, certainly not the major ones, include students." In addition, "students were completely excluded from discussions leading to the proposal of curriculum change," and the *Argus* editor was "denied permission even to listen to and report faculty deliberations." The November 15, 1968 editorial described the responses reporters typically enountered in the "offices of the four deans":

> "I don't know anything . . . yes, I am a member of cabinet . . . but I don't know when it meets . . ."
>
> "You'd better get all this from the president . . . . "
>
> "Well you can attend for the background information, but we don't want anyone to know about it yet. If they did, it might not go through . . . ."

The editors charged that one dean withheld information on a proposed student conduct program, while another deflected inquiries over deferred rush by allegedly saying, "You don't have to tell anyone, but frankly, I think the *Argus* is getting a little too nosey." In addition,

> A different reporter inquired of the same dean each week last spring, "How is the formation of the new [all black] fraternity developing?" The answer each week was, "It isn't. . . . There won't be one." But we returned to campus this fall to find a brand new local fraternity on the records. (November 15, 1968)

The editors admitted, "Yes newspapers make trouble. Yet, the university public does have the right to know. We can't force the deans to reveal campus news.

But, let's hope they will fulfill their roles as communicators and truly inform and involve students and other sectors of Wesleyan's 'family.'"

The "Wesleyan family" concept was apparently one of the university's sacred cows, having evolved over a great many decades. When a first-year professor of humanities attacked the notion in an "Echo Chamber" column, the reverberations went on and on. John J. Mood's column followed on the heels of another Echo Chamber, where a female student had detailed three problems (and four solutions) to what she called overly parental dorm rules for women. How parental was Wesleyan? As late as 1956, all student handbooks stated that students who wanted to marry had to get the blessings of not just parents, but the university president as well (December 13, 1968). In his column, Mood charged that

> there are implications in the family metaphor which are all too applicable. For one thing, the picture of students as children and faculty and administration as parents is demeaning to both groups. For another, there is the correctly implied incestuousness of most American universities. (April 14, 1967)

He called for a plan that sounded drastic even to him: that students and faculty together should make all policies, and that administration should merely *administer* the policies. Mood did not return to Wesleyan the following year.

But *in loco parentis* continued to be a hot topic, especially after neighboring ISU became the first university in the nation to completely do away with women's hours. The January 19, 1968 *Argus* criticized the "hastily constructed questionnaire which was sent home to parents of junior and senior women" to find whether they favored changing the university's "current program of protective parenthood." Not surprisingly, a March 1 article featured this banner headline: "Parents condemn hours abolition."

On March 5, 1993, Brian Hiatt ('95) put the current policy in perspective. He told students that the issue was hottest in 1969, when "about 1000 students from Wesleyan and Illinois State" marched and "held panty raids" in protest. Darcy Greder, head of the Office of Residential Programs, reminded students that "Visitation hours [11 a.m.-12 p.m. on weekdays, and until 1 a.m. on weekends] are not in place for moral protection. It's there to ensure the privacy and security of every student living in a residence hall at Wesleyan."

Editorials, letters and columns continued to be the lifeblood of *The Argus* during the 1960s and early 1970s, especially as students began to discover that "'Student Power' is a reality" (March 8, 1968). Most vital was "The Echo Chamber," offering insights and essays by faculty and students on the concept of a liberal arts college, Vietnam, ecology, student rights and civil rights. In one of the columns, Professor Paul Bushnell's "White academy neglects blacks," the introduction explained how black students attended a conference at Alma College in 1967 and found that "social and academic conditions at IWU are

much better than at other colleges" (September 27, 1968). But the introduction also noted that IWU's last black professor left in 1963, and Bushnell wrote, "Despite certain marks of acceptance in limited areas of life on Wesleyan's campus, the black student has not been generally aware of any real commitment on the part of the institution, from the Trustees down, to open its white doors to the black world."

Campus Politics: A Decade of Re-evaluation

The first editorial of fall 1970 already began to assess the impact of "the social upheaval of the sixties." Something had changed. For one thing, the staff gave that first editorial to university President Robert S. Eckley. In an editorial of their own, instead of railing about closed campus buildings as students did the previous decade, editors complained that "several campus buildings were found to be open after closing hours" and pointed an accusing finger at security. In a longer editorial, editor Tom Wetzel called for cooperation and communication between students and the administration, arguing that "students of college age can conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with the goals of a university," and "when free communication is impeded or blocked, chastisement of the offenders will come from all members of the university, including students" (August 25, 1970).

The university proclaimed 1970 "the Year of Re-evaluation," which set the tone for a decade of dialogue. *Argus* editorials backed or made suggestions for newly revamped faculty committees and called for the outdated student handbook to be revised. When the university disbanded the speech department in 1973, editors agreed with Eckley that the department may not have been strong enough to offer a major, but offered a compromise: "The home economics major was dissolved but courses are still offered in this area. Why can't the speech department be treated in the same manner?" The university took their advice, and hired a single person to teach communication courses.

During the decade, The Echo Chamber continued, with faculty and student columns on the American dream and blacks, self-involvement and a broader concept of athletics. A November 6 editorial complained about student apathy except for "one notable exception. Debates in Student Senate have aroused some support, and still more discussion [over autonomy, student self-government] is pending."

During the 1970s, Student Senate became the focus of campus politics and concerns—and dominated *Argus* editorial pages. The March 23, 1970 issue reprinted the entire Student Senate constitution, since "Senate law [dictated] that all proposed constitutional changes be published in the ARGUS before they can be voted on."

Practically every issue in the 1970s contained a column, letter, or editorial about the campus solons. In "Senate motions necessitate responsibility of follow-ups" (November 20, 1970), editors not only supported Senate motions to investigate campus job recruiting "and anaylyze the armed service recruiting in

particular," but called for action. On March 19, 1971, editors chastized Senate president George Vinyard ('71) for singlehandedly trying "to save the Phoenix by refusing to fight anybody, saying yes to Holmes Hall, and then announcing his candidacy for manager." Vinyard responded in the next issue by thanking *The Argus* for its "ever-widening credibility gap." Vinyard wasn't the only target. Senators and officers throughout the decade were fair game, as one editorial made clear: "The sounds that emerged from the Davidson Room of this past week's student senate meeting resembled more the grunts and groans of a zoo than that of a thinking intelligent group of people" (March 11, 1977)

One letter-writer complained,

> What is the purpose of the senseless mud slinging that goes on every week in your Senate-funded tabloid? Is this supposed to be a student newspaper, or a scaled-down version of the *National Enquirer*? . . . Is this common journalistic practice or is it more common to receive a wider spectrum of views on current events? (November 30, 1979)

Despite other letters complaining of excessive Senate coverage, *The Argus* continued to devote much of its space to student government. Editorials questioned Senate activity fee increases and budgets, criticized Senate presidents, sought to break from the Senate Media Commission and reluctantly endorsed candidates for Student Senate elections each spring with headlines like "None excel in presidential race" (February 15, 1974).

One of the more interesting exchanges between *The Argus* and Senate occurred when Editor Marla Donato criticized Senate's matching-payment plan for student gynecological exams. According to the chairperson from the Senate Women's Affairs Committee, Senate allocated $1000 in 1976-77 "to cover up to half of the twenty dollar fee charged for a complete gynecological examination at Planned Parenthood," including "a three month supply of contraceptives" (March 11, 1977). Donato complained that publicity was slight and funding was insufficient to cover all women who wanted to take advantage of the program. She also questioned whether Senate should fund personal medical bills and contraception. Patricia Robinson ('77), WAC chair, explained in her rebuttal that "in our society, it is the woman's responsibility to obtain proper birth control. Many of us can not afford the fees . . . and it is a relief to have this service provided" (March 11).

Donato fired the last salvo. The March 18 editorial claimed that while the money had been in place (and had been used by IWU women) since fall, "only $40 was left in the fund" when Robinson sent a letter to the 841 women on campus urging them to take advantage of the service.

Argus staffs at times waxed nostalgic for 1960s-style confrontations—even if none existed. Editors referred to a "bookstore controversy" which amounted to little more than the usual student complaints, and when mechanical problems occurred with dorm doors, they termed it the "'Dolan Lock' scandal" (September 15, 1972). The 1974 staff tried to make an issue out of parking, calling it "one of

the most pressing problems confronting the IWU student" (February 15, 1974)—though a letter-writer fired back, "In the great tradition of blissful ignorance, so common to other **Argi** I have known, you propose this absurdity" (February 22, 1974).

The 1970s were made for the sardonic "Gadfly." A column "written anonymously by a member of the Wesleyan student body," the Gadfly derived its name from ancient Greek history. "Socrates was referred to as the 'gadfly of Athens' because of his stinging attacks directed toward the Athenian government" (October 25, 1975). Wesleyan's Gadfly was an equal-opportunity attacker. Even buildings weren't safe. In the October 25 editorial, the Gadfly released "new catalog information" and described, for would-be or still-am students, the landmarks of IWU. Of Holmes Hall administration building, for example, the Gadfly wrote,

> This magnificent structure, with the striking lines of its **petite State Farm** architecture, is the work of that famous architect responsible for so many of Wesleyan's fine buildings, Bidder Lowest. It is here that you will come when called before the throne of one of the officers of the Administration. It is here that you will find the "in" faculty, as well as those instructors who, despite their excellence, have to date survived the current administration—although most of these will soon be collecting their gold watches.

Another Gadfly column offered similar parodic descriptions of faculty stalwarts, including "Dr. Robert Fray" [Bray], who "is infamous for his ability to cram two hours worth of questions into fifty minutes of exam time," and "Dr. Donald 'Dancing Donny' Cram [Strand], "an insurance expert [who] has yet to devise an adequate form of insurance against his own classroom jokes" (October 31, 1975). The Gadfly also attacked faculty committees that year, and when "Wesleyland Vocational High" developed basketball fever with the Titans headed for the national tournament at Kansas City, the Gadfly flew in with his stinger to burst the bubble. He wrote that "all anyone is talking about is K.C. (although that could be the initials of a cheap one on front street)," adding,

> I realize of course that basketball is a sport of highly coordinated movement and agility, but so is getting out of a backseat of a Toyota. One must have the precision and timing of a ballerina, or at least the legs. It is a fast moving, thinking man's sport of reaction and action, very much like a cute girl trying to survive the night at a single's bar. (March 11, 1977)

Another column that began in the 1970s turned into a custom. Since 1979, *Argus* staffs have used their last issue before the holiday season to fill campus stockings with candy canes or coal. Throughout the year they made a list of who had been naughty or nice, with the first candy canes going to the drama department ("for *Death of a Salesman*"), to the Student Senate ("for buying the *Argus* new electric typewriters") and to Pope John-Paul II ("for promoting peace and

good will throughout the world"). Editors dropped coal in the socks of Governor Jim Thompson ("for raising the drinking age"), to the Ayatollah ("for spoiling the holiday for many Americans"), to the faculty ("for making what used to be considered 'dead week' into what has now become known as 'All-University Hell Week'") and to Student Senate ("for seeing fit to keep with tradition and lose money on a Homecoming Concert") (December 14, 1979).

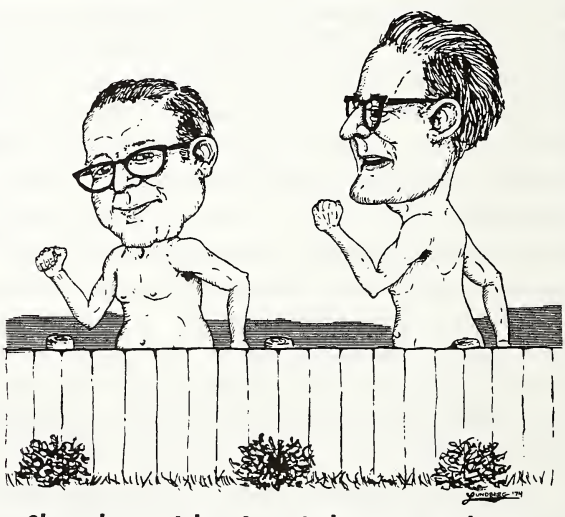
But the people who should have gotten *something* in their stockings were the unsung *Argus* photographers. Photos have not always been an *Argus* forté, and while Phil Denby's resignation appeared in an April Fool's issue, every last laugh had a kernel of truth:

> Your photo editor has resigned. Yes, readers, this means no more foggy, under contrast, indistinguishable photos will be published by yours truly. Anyone who has even the slightest knowledge of photo technique, wants to waste a lot of time for little or no reward, and doesn't mind being referred to as "that _ _ _ hole with the camera," apply in person to the *Argus* editor. . . . (March 29, 1974)

The 1980s (plus four)

As in the 1970s, early editorials were given to the president, who welcomed students back to campus in fall 1982-83. But as in the 1970s, the president quickly disappeared from *The Argus* pages—that is, until President Robert S. Eckley retired in 1986. In the March 21 issue, editors praised Robert and Nell Eckley for having a "positive influence on the campus," noting that Mrs. Eckley "put much time and energy into working for the beautification of the campus" and that Dr. Eckley has "recognized the role of the campus press, and has not interfered in its production."

After a decade of Student Senate concerns, *The Argus* opened its eyes to national issues. Television made students witnesses to an assassination attempt, the first controlled spacecraft landing, the terrorist bombing of U.S. Marines in Beirut, nuclear disarmament talks, Ethiopian famine, AIDS paranoia, abortion demonstrations, the U.S. attack



Slow down, John, I can't keep up with you!

Free Spirits: While The Argus *poked fun of university dean John Clark (left) and President Robert Eckley in this 1974 streaking cartoon, editors praised Eckley for not interfering with production of the newspaper. The artist was Gary Lundberg ('75).*

on Libya and the Iran-Contra Affair—with all of those events appearing on *The Argus* ' opinion pages.

At times, the media bombardment seemed too much. When John W. Hinkley, Jr. tried to assassinate President Ronald Reagan, an *Argus* editorial accused the media of taking Hinkley "out of the common realm of humanity" and building "an image larger than life" (April 3, 1981). Later that decade, columnist John Snyder also expressed concern with the "control the media has over what we think, how we think, and when we think" (September 29, 1989). Snyder complained about the public outcry which followed reports that Supreme Court Justice nominee Douglas Ginsberg "tried marijuana in college, at a time when nearly EVERYBODY tried marijuana." Had the media pursued Ted Kennedy after the Chappaquidick incident with equal vehemence, Snyder argued, his career would have ended as abruptly as Ginsberg's.

As students focused their energies on off-campus issues, campus traditions suddenly became endangered species. In 1988, an *Argus* editorial reported that Homecoming was threatened by a lack of interest and attendance (October 14). Later, the April 21, 1989 *Argus* told how "the yearbook is dying, and if students are apathetic . . . it may disappear with its 86 years of tradition." A Student Senate survey decided the yearbook's fate. While the vote gave the *Wesleyana* a stay of execution, letters from the media commissioner and *Wesleyana* editor made it clear that students didn't care enough to work on the staff that year.

But campus issues still appeared in *The Argus*. When, after a succession of delays, the River City Construction Company missed their "ultimatum" to have Fort Natatorium pool fully operational by January 1, 1988, editors complained. Surprisingly, and for perhaps the first time in the newspaper's history, everyone on campus agreed. First it was the wrong length that delayed construction of the Olympic-size pool, and then, "Surprise! The pool leaks," editors griped on January 15. "What is wrong? Why don't we get some of Wesleyan's pre-engineering majors out there to finish the job?"

The Gadfly turned into a barfly in the 1980s, preoccupied with finding places to drink (September 18, 1981) and offering "booze violation tips" to the campus (November 5, 1982). Wesleyan's six-year "wet" experiment ended when the state of Illinois raised the drinking age to 21 in 1980. Four years later, editors conceded that the university's new ban on alcohol bottles and cans—even as dorm decorations—made enforcement of the no-drinking rule easier. But they also proposed an age 21-and-over hall where "responsible students" could drink "without having to worry about university infractions" (September 21, 1984). No such hall was ever designated.

That left students to debate where it was easier to break the alcohol policy—in the residence halls or Greek houses. After the 1982 *Wesleyana* included photos of two fraternities posing with alcoholic beverage bottles, cans and kegs, a few independent students wrote *The Argus* to complain: "You would think the university would do something about the violation. Have they? Are they? Will they?" (October 1, 1982). The following week, two Greeks retorted, "We can

list many dorm violations which the RA's chose to ignore, and wisely so. . . . Alcohol violations can be very complicated situations. So, relax" (October 8). Despite other letters urging the university to revise its alcohol regulations, the policy remained unchanged as of 1994, largely because the majority of IWU students are under the legal drinking age.

When short-term travel couses were called back before the end of the semester because of terrorist threats to travelling Americans, a February 15, 1991 editorial called for a partial refund to students. No refunds were given, since the action taken was obviously in the students' best interest.

Sometimes, however, the opinion pages helped shape campus policies. In one case, Steve Dunlap ('82), a student representative on Curriculum Council, wrote a letter urging the student body to respond to a survey prepared by professor John Wenum. The committee needed to gauge student feelings on a proposed program which would enable them to "minor" in subjects. The students responded, and a minor program was adopted and in place for the 1983-84 school year.

In another case, *The Argus* criticized Student Senate's "gag rule" giving non-senators the right to speak only if called upon by senators. Editors said this made for "a near-constant flow of non-senators dashing to their senators to recognize them," which resembled "the Keystone Kops on speed" (October 8, 1982). On October 19, Senate repealed the gag rule, and while a motion to revive it came in spring 1983, that motion failed (November 16).

Students in the 1980s often used the editorial pages not to criticize, but to express their needs or effect change. After letters and columns pointed to the need for a minority counselor, the university launched a four-year Minority Opportunities Program in 1987, and provided a part-time academic counselor the following year. By the 1990-91 school year, Illinois Wesleyan had a full-time Director of Minority Services.

In 1987, after a Wesleyan freshman was sexually assaulted at 4 a.m. while walking near the Fort Natatorium construction site, *The Argus* reminded students of the obvious: in a crime-ridden world, even idyllic Illinois Wesleyan wasn't completely safe. One week later, editor J. Arlen Bowyer ('90) advised the university to protect its students by increasing the security force from midnight to 7 a.m. and by making escorts "a mandatory rather than a voluntary policy" (October 30, 1987).

The April 22, 1988 *Argus* reported that when students were away on spring break, a campus security guard was attacked while trying to stop a Presser Hall break-in. The officer was hit on the head from behind by a second intruder and dumped in the bushes. Again, editors argued for an end to single-officer patrols after midnight: "If this lone incident is not enough of an incentive to change the security schedule, let the administration turn the clock back to the last time the schedule was criticized." In 1990, campus security began using double-patrols between the hours of 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., and by 1994 they employed double-patrols 16 hours each day.

Campus security became a major concern during the 1980s and early 1990s, both at Illinois State University and at IWU (see Chapter 3). Student Senate's About Women and Role Expectations (AWARE) Committee promoted a "WhistleSTOP" program, and the *Argus* encouraged all women to purchase a whistle on breakaway chain to blow in case of attack. "At Wesleyan, like most campuses, screaming is commonplace," *The Argus* argued, and rape deterrence was serious enough that students wouldn't blow the whistles in jest, as opponents of the program had claimed (September 23, 1988).

Later letters and editorials like "Grow up! And save yourself" (November 13, 1992) urged students to take precautions and again reminded females that campus security would provide an escort if they needed to walk alone after dark. When another Wesleyan student was assaulted a mile off-campus one year later, security responded by taping warnings on all campus buildings before students woke for their first classes (March 12, 1993).

The threat of sexual assault wasn't limited to strangers, however. As date rape became a national concern, columnist Bob Hessling ('91) reminded the campus that Illinois Wesleyan wasn't immune from such problems. In "Time for Wesleyan to come clean on its dirty little secret" (September 28, 1990)—a column that won first place in Illinois College Press Association competition—he described how *The Argus* had received a graphic letter from a woman who had been date-raped. "When I first read this, I felt like something had been ripped out of me," Hessling wrote. He reported that in fall 1989 at the University of Illinois, 16.4 percent of campus females had been raped, "mostly by men they knew"—a figure which, applied to Illinois Wesleyan, was "roughly the population of Ferguson Hall." In the first of many editorials to call for a change in the way males treat women, Hessling appealed to the men of IWU to educate each other.

Other editorials and columns hailed anti-smoking legislation, promoted the campus Rock Aid for Bangladesh program, called for an end to U.S. aid to the U.S.S.R., supported stricter International Whaling Commission regulations, backed the Brady [gun control] Bill and asked students to maintain an Earth Day mentality year-round by recycling and avoiding products that were detrimental to the environment. As early as 1982, *The Argus* was making "an attempt to eliminate sexist language in IWU's newspaper" by alternating the use of "he" or "she" throughout individual articles (October 29). And when Los Angeles Lakers basketball star Magic Johnson announced he had AIDS, an *Argus* editorial took exception with the way the media treated him as a hero:

> Johnson did not receive the virus through a blood transfusion as did Ryan White, who captured the heart of America and helped people overcome their ignorance and fear of AIDS. Nor did he acquire the virus from his dentist, as did Kimberly Burgalis [sic], who fought for disclosure laws which would force medical professionls to tell their patients if they have been exposed to the HIV virus. . . . Johnson had unprotected

> sex. Many times, he told reporters. . . . While it is sad that Johnson's career ended the way it did . . . society must stop idolizing Johnson as a tragic victim. Instead, he should be seen for what he is, a fantastically gifted athlete who succumbed to the lustful temptations that accompany his sport. (January 17, 1992)

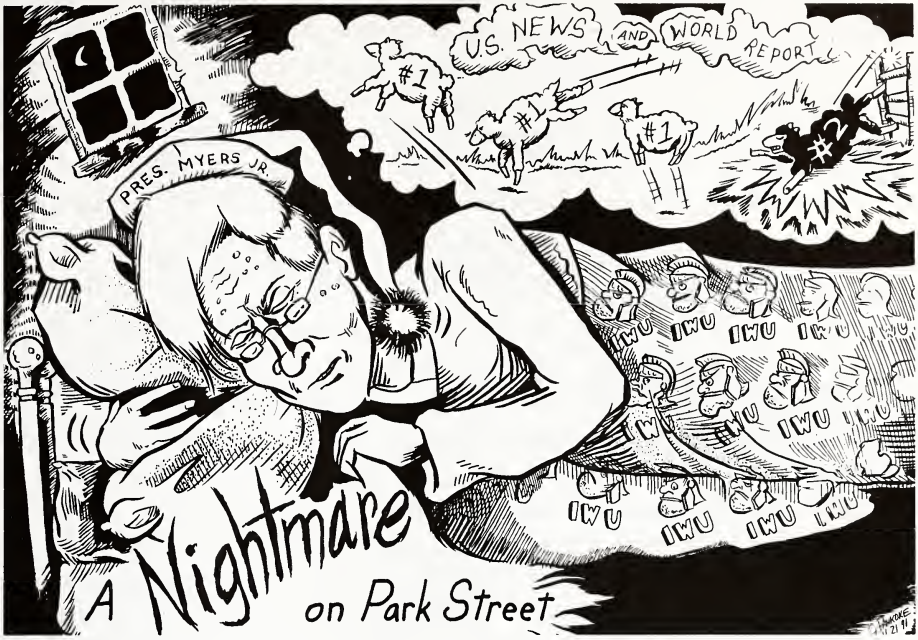
Certain topics remained "hot," with the campus divided on gay and lesbian rights, pro-life versus pro-choice attitudes on abortion, Ross Perot and the economic plans of Presidents Bush and Clinton. Closer to home, students tried to persuade faculty to retain January short term—an unsuccessful campaign, since faculty voted in December 1993 to replace January term with an optional May term as part of the 7-to-6 course load reduction plan.

During the 1989-90 school year, the students' campaign to get condoms distributed on campus took up so much space in *The Argus* that one parent wrote,

> A friend and I were joking about the high level of concern on your campus over whether or not Illinois Wesleyan would provide condoms. . . . You students are so intense in your quest for recognition as adults, yet you expect the university to supply you with the equipment with which to be . . . . If you have bad breath, you buy mouthwash, if you smell bad, you purchase deodorant, if you're going to fool around, you'd better be prepared. But that's your responsibility, not the school's. (April 13, 1990).

Students were neither embarrassed nor daunted, and the Great Condom Debate that began in November, 1989 alternately raged and sputtered and flamed up again—for two more years. Columnist April Olt ('93) argued that it would "save not morals, but lives" (November 6, 1992), while a staff editorial referred to the university's "ignorance" and asked, "Why else won't the University provide condoms for its students? Most likely, it's the fear that doing so will insinuate that the University is condoning sex" (December 4, 1992). Students wrote letters to inform the university that they weren't exactly virginal, and the topic was to be discussed by the Student Senate. But the Great Senate Condom Debate finally fizzled when dean of students Glenn Swichtenberg matter-of-factly "expressed doubts that the distribution of condoms through the university could be condoned." He added, "The responsibility for pretection belongs with the student who chooses to be sexually active" (December 4). And that was that.

On October 13, 1989, an almost-giddy editorial proclaimed, "Wesleyan Ranks #1" after *U.S. News & World Report* named Illinois Wesleyan University as the top regional college in the Midwest. "Not too shabby," editors remarked, though they also observed that Illinois Wesleyan's only low mark came in the category of "faculty," based in part on the percentage of Ph.D.s and on faculty salaries. "Let's celebrate and enjoy," editors wrote. "But after the celebration, let's concentrate on our shortcomings and try even harder." Faculty salaries became an administrative priority, and Illinois Wesleyan retained its position as



Tossing and turning: President Minor Myers, jr. loses sleep over the possibility of IWU losing its No. 1 ranking in U.S. News and World Report *(1991). Jason Pankoke ('93) was the artist.*

the top regional college in the Midwest for five straight years.

Students in the early years of *Argus* reporting were deeply concerned about the image Illinois Wesleyan University had beyond the campus. Ironically, 100 years later students were still concerned about images—including their own. A November 11, 1983 editorial took pains to report that a quiet peace gathering in front of the library "revealed a different side of the Wesleyan community than the stereotypical 'spoiled rich kid' label that we are usually tagged with."

More than a few editorial writers and columnists tried to dispel "The Wesleyan myth . . . Do only rich kids go to IWU?" In his column, R. Jonathan Moore wrote, "certainly this university has more than its share of well-heeled attendees, but I hardly think that we would all classify ourselves as 'rich.' . . . Among my friends are a farmer's son and the son of carpet cleaners—do you think these people are rich?" (September 21, 1990). Sometimes, statistics speak louder than words. President Minor Myers, jr. wrote in the university's Annual Report for 1993 that 84 percent of the students at Illinois Wesleyan University received some form of financial aid.

CHAPTER 6

A Free and Independent Press?

Many an incoming *Argus* editor was surprised to learn that the First Amendment, which guarantees the right of free speech, does not apply to private schools. While students may run the newspaper, whatever freedom they have comes by the grace of the administration—since the university is considered the publisher and therefore named co-defendant in libel lawsuits.

Even with a supportive administration, running an independent newspaper on a campus as small and intimate as Illinois Wesleyan's can be challenging. While college newspapers do not exist to appease all campus factions, they must certainly try to get along with them in order to gain some degree of journalistic success. If, heaven forbid, *The Argus* ever failed to satisfy its readers, it directly set itself up for attack. Unhappy readers not only voiced their objections in the classroom and on the quad, but also let the entire campus know their gripes by writing a letter and ironically having it printed in the very newspaper with which they were angry—thanks to the principle of free speech.

While letters to the editor did not appear in the newspaper's first three years, evidence of unsatisfied readers surfaced as early as December 10, 1894. Editors chastised apparently disgruntled readers in an editorial titled "Don't Complain:"

> Remember that it takes an exceedingly small lot of brains to complain, and remember that it is very far from an easy task to find, every two weeks, twelve pages of matter interesting to the students, without drawing from any and every source. So, if items from the daily papers interesting to some of the students frequently appear in The Argus, don't imagine we are having an easy time of it, and get disgruntled because we do not rewrite articles upon which we could not improve, and to do which would take a great deal more time than we have to give the paper. If you do not think it takes time, try to give us some news yourself, say enough to fill up a column of locals. You will find it no "snap," we assure you. Don't complain when we are doing our best, but help us all you can. It is easy to dislike things, but harder to remedy them.

Readers have since written letters to proclaim their views and to remind *The Argus* that while it may be "all seeing and all knowing," its coverage is not always perfect. As *Argus* staffers grew ever more conscious of trying to be a *real* newspaper, the letters of complaint naturally increased. One student's criti-

cism in 1988 summarized the problem: that of coverage, "or lack thereof. . . . It seems the Argus is now following the pattern of the rest of our nation's media by reporting only the sensational in regards to feminist issues, and avoiding the everyday concerns facing today's women and men." Over the years, readers have consistently reprimanded the newspaper when, in their eyes, it devoted too much or too little space to certain issues and organizations. And of course anything negative, however true or substantiated, often met with complaints.

Media and the Administration

While the Wesleyan administration in 1993-94 remains committed to the idea of a free and independent college press, such was not always the case. Early *Argus* editorial pages—the entire paper, for that matter—reflected the large influence administrators had over the newspaper. Editorials often applauded the university and the administration, rarely opposing anything it did or said. Speaking in the university's voice of authority, an October 5, 1903 editorial urged students to remember their studies: "A good year is expected and will be realized if every one enrolled at the Wesleyan as a student, is a student indeed." Editors in the June 9, 1922 edition praised the Wesleyan spirit, "WESLEYAN EXPECTS YOUR BEST. Give her your best, freely, happily, and humbly and the spirit of Wesleyan will be yours."

Not until the 1930s did editors begin to use editorials to educate readers instead of as administrative yea-sayers. Editor Ralph E. McCoy was one of the first editors to defy the administration. "I introduced the concept of investigative reporting to *The Argus* [in 1936]," he said. "We had a very energetic staff who liked digging."

In spring 1937, McCoy and his staff reported that Illinois Wesleyan had lost its approved rating with the American Association of University Women "as a direct result of Wesleyan's being discredited by the Association of American Universities at an earlier date." It didn't take much digging, however, for an article on the loss of accreditation appeared in *The New York Times*. Even so, McCoy said that President Harry W. McPherson ('06)—a former *Argus* editor himself—was not too eager to have news of it appear in the campus newspaper. Nonetheless, "AAUW Takes Wesleyan Off Approved List: Is A Result of Discrediting of School By A. A. U.," appeared as the lead story in the April 14th issue. On the same page editors printed a letter from McPherson denying rumors that Wesleyan had also lost its accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools it has held since 1916. McPherson assured students and faculty that

> because of certain requirements, now being worked out, the institution was not included on the latest approved list [of the AAU]. . . . We have been assured, however, that as soon as we can measure up to these requirements, we shall again be so listed. . . . It is frankly admitted by all that Wesleyan never did better work than it is doing at present. The total reputation of the institution is steadily improving, financially and otherwise.

had the power to influence the administration by printing articles, editorials, and letters which brought serious campus concerns to the forefront. In the fall of 1960, *The Argus* addressed the then-controversial issue of faculty salary raises. The opinion/editorial pages allowed faculty to voice their opinions for and against President Bertholf's faculty salary plan. Though salaries did not increase that year, *The Argus* brought the issue into public discussion. One professor commended the staff, under the editorship of Dori Andresen Danielson ('61), on its efforts to push the administration toward a decision. "It pleases me to see in *The Argus* and to hear in conversation that students are genuinely interested in the welfare of both the faculty and their fellows," the professor wrote (December 9, 1960).

Sometimes the issues went beyond the campus, as when *The Argus* splashed this story across its April 14, 1967 front page: "IWU attacks Apartheid." The article described a stand which hit uncomfortably close to home, given Wesleyan's affiliation with the Methodist Church. In it, "members of the administration, faculty, and student body of Illinois Wesleyan" affirmed the position taken by the National Student Christian Federation "concerning the present bank arrangement of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church with the First National Bank of New York . . . now extending credit to the government of South Africa." Front-page treatment drew attention to the story and helped mobilize the campus. "Anyone interested in further action or study should call Chaplain William White and other members of the All-University Council," the article concluded. In the fall, *The Argus* reported that the plea led to a petition circulated by the campus Religious Activities Commission (RAC) that drew 527 signatures. "The petition prompted three Board of Mission members to explain Board actions and plans at a meeting of RAC," *The Argus* later reported (September 22, 1967). *The Argus* reported that on February 9, 1968 the Methodist Board of Missions withdrew their portfolio amounting to $10 million from the First National City Bank (March 1, 1968).

The issue surfaced again in the 1980s, and an *Argus* story prompted Student Senate to demand that the Illinois Wesleyan Board of Trustees disclose information on IWU investment practices in South Africa (see Chapter 3).

Although both incidents, two decades apart, put university officials in an awkward position, the administration made no attempt to censor student journalists' efforts. In fact, overall relations between the newspaper staff and the administration have been cordial. Most editors prior to 1980 attribute the lack of friction to the fact that they weren't very radical (given Wesleyan's stable, family atmosphere), and seldom did editorial boards test the regulations of the administration. In turn, administrators felt no need to censor the newspaper. "There was no censorship other than what we imposed on ourselves," Andersen Danielson said.

The Argus and Student Senate—in Theory

Beyond a doubt, the body that has had the most influence on *The Argus* has been the Illinois Wesleyan Student Senate. Since the 1930s Senate, referred to

as the Student Union until the 1950s, has controlled the selection of *The Argus*' editor. In pre-Senate years, editors were chosen by a university board which elected a staff on the basis of class rank and ability. The job of editor became highly competitive when Senate began to elect an editor. The 1932 Student Union Constitution briefly outlined the Union's relationship with the newspaper: "It shall be the duty of the President . . . To be present and voting at the election of the editor-in-chief of . . . the *Argus*." By 1947 the Student Union had developed a Publications Committee which oversaw the editor's election as well as "[determined] the policies of all student publications." A 1969 constitutional amendment provided for a Communications Commission, comprised of senators and publications editors and advisers, which chose the *Argus* editor and associate editor by the consent of Senate and reviewed newspaper procedures and subsequent constitutions. The Communications Committee changed to a Media Commission in 1973, which evolved into a single media commissioner position in the late 1970s. The Senate president's choice of media commissioner, a position which continued through the 1990s, was subject to approval by the Senate. Candidates for the position of editor completed an application and interviewed with the newly-elected commissioner—one often totally unfamiliar with the various media. The commissioner then selected an editor who chose the remainder of the staff.

Ironically, once appointed by Student Senate via the media commissioner, the first step for a new editor involved a desperate fight for money—with Student Senate. Only after a new editor petitioned Senate's Financial Advisory Board (FAB) for a carefully documented and argued budget could *The Argus* appear.

The Argus and Student Senate—in Practice

The power that Senate held over the newspaper caused "a running battle," as 1970-72 editor Wetzel aptly termed it. Senate may have held the purse strings, but editors often used the power of the press to publicly complain about Senate's deficiencies. Headlines such as "Senators fail duty" (September 23, 1960) were no stranger to *The Argus*. That editorial took Senate to task for failing to finalize a budget—neither the first nor the last time such a complaint would be registered.

The rumblings of Senate/*Argus* disputes began to appear in print in the 1960s. In a November 13, 1964, while the staff didn't rebut criticism of *The Argus* that occurred in a previous Senate meeting, they did, in fact, question Senate's judgment:

> Twice that night senators, in the process of running student government, questioned us about the exclusion of certain copy. . . . In our opinion senators could use their time discussing more vital issues . . . any questioning of our policy should be handled with us first.

Most of the squabbles were over Senate's efficiency. Throughout the 1960s, editorials urged Senate to become an "effective" organization. Editors wrote in the September 18, 1964 edition:

> We feel that there is much latent ability in this year's student senate. If

> the senators will become informed on issues which appear before senate, and then act on these issues, the senate could be very effective body this year. If they will not, Sunday evening [during senate meetings] will be turned into a weekly social hour.

If Senate did not meet its deadlines, follow through on its promises or run an unflawed meeting, *The Argus* reported the miscue in the next week's editorial. "Senate efficiency demands knowledge of procedure" (October 1, 1971) blasted Senate's parliamentarian when one meeting was conducted outside formal guidelines. The editorial not only blamed the parliamentarian, but Senate as well, arguing that

> Senate should be certain before they start the year that they have a partliamentarian who possesses an extensive knowledge of rules of procedure so that questions can be cleared up quickly. . . . To play the game and not know the rules is bad enough. But to attempt to referee without that knowledge is a crime.

After *The Argus* ran in the red during the 1970-71 school year, an October 22, 1971 editorial applauded Student Senate's financial bailout, but editors were disturbed that "some members of senate thought that an investigation of the content of the **Argus** would be in order since an investigation of its finances had already been conducted." Tom Wetzel and his staff called any investigation of content "a dangerous encroachment on the freedom of the press."

The dispute peaked in December, when an *Argus* front page proclaimed, "Senate ponders Argus problems." The lead began, "In surprise action last Sunday, Student Union Commission chairman Sue Elliott moved that Senate remove **Argus** editor Tom Wetzel. The motion was seconded" (December 10, 1971). Elliott told the reporter that her call for removal "stemmed from 'less than satisfactory' coverage of SUC events, and the fact that the **Argus** had not yet turned in a record of its books, due in November." Wetzel, who was at the meeting, explained that a changeover in business managers complicated things, and "stated figures which purported to show that the **Argus** as of now is running in the black." Later, a forum was held in which Wetzel had to defend the **Argus**. Following a discussion of the motion to remove him, the vote went in Wetzel's favor, with the Communications Commission giving him "a vote of confidence," according to Student Senate minutes from January 9, 1972.

In retrospect, *The Argus*/Senate tension was at its ebb when Senate was hardly mentioned in print. The more Senate appeared in the newspaper, the more power Senate had over *The Argus*. The early to mid-1970s provide the best example of Senate's influence, which began in the 1972-73 school year when Student Senate president Tom Patterson maintained a weekly column, "President's corner." While the column allowed the Senate president to explain Senate happenings and urge student involvement, it also set a dangerous precedent. Not since the early years, when *Argus* pages featured directives from the university president, had such space been guaranteed to a member of the campus power structure. It opened the doors for potential abuse, where the president's

column could emerge as a counterpoint to *Argus* editorials. Unfortunately, that is exactly what happened the following year, when the tension between Student Senate and *The Argus* escalated into the messiest mudslinging controversy in the newspaper's 100-year history.

As spring, 1973 drew to a close and the nation focused on the Watergate cover-up, Illinois Wesleyan was preoccupied by its own scandal. That spring Senate began a struggle with *The Argus* that would last for months. As reported in "Budgets, B———t, & Baloney" (May 5, 1973), an hour-long debate over qualifications of an *Argus* editor appointee led to the eventual approval of Thomas St. John. While much of the *Argus* staff did not feel St. John could handle the job, Senate disagreed, prompting outgoing sports editor Paul Breen ('75) to shout out "bullshit," which inspired the staff's use of the partially-formed word in its lead story headline. The problem some staff members had, according to outgoing editor and future second-time editor Dave Gathman, was that St. John had "never stepped foot in *The Argus* office" until he was named editor.

The same Senate that approved St. John later did an about-face, as reported in "Argus Editor faces removal motion" (October 26, 1973). The motion asked for the removal of St. John "in the hope of salvaging the newspaper." The rationale behind the motion noted that *The Argus*, being a "vital source of news at IWU," had popularly come under attack by people who showed "true concern" for it, that the slim margin of St. John's Senate confirmation showed their initial apprehension, and that "It is the feeling of many that said editor and members of his staff have not only failed to fulfill their duties and responsibilities, but they have also displayed an immature attitude and general incompetency. . . ." Senate postponed the motion for two weeks.

During that time, Senate accusations and *Argus* countercharges flew fast and furious. Even the staff was sharply divided. Political Editor Bob Kamholz ('75) addressed the removal motion in his weekly column, "From the Smoke Filled Room," blaming Senate for firing non-specific charges at St. John and claiming that its criticism lacked both "cause and support." Kamholz saved his best shot for last: "In other words, *Argus* critics, put up or shut up."

One week later, Senate devised an investigative committee to oversee *Argus* production, and the decision to remove or retain St. John was again delayed. Kamholz backed off and made a point of not mentioning the controversy in his column. St. John, meanwhile, used his position to defend himself and his politically-torn newspaper in "Saint's Column," which took the editorial's place in the November 9, 1973 issue. In it, he responded to a letter printed below the column, in which student Jeff Bright ('74) complained, "I am dissatisfied with *The Argus* after eight issues. I feel cheated, in fact, that the staff . . . did so little reporting. . . . try again, crew."

St. John's column responded directly to Bright's criticism, again using Kamholz's "put up or shut up" method. Citing Bright's letter as "the straw that broke the camel's back," he addressed Bright personally, rather than the student body, because the letter did not come from an unbiased source: "I still believe

that the only articles that were submitted to me that I did not publish were two of the three that you have given me . . . Don't try again, Jeff." The St. John chapter came to a close on November 16, as reported in the lead story, "Editor St. John resigns After Senate Acquittal." According to the article, St. John addressed the Senate after finding out that he was no longer under investigation: "I would like to thank those of you who voted for me and not thank those who voted against me, and, as of about five seconds ago, I resign." In that same issue, two letters defended St. John and congratulated him on his resignation, calling Senate's handling of the incident a "pitiful example of justice" and a "sludge slinging" match. In his column, Kamholz blasted Senate for falsely suggesting St. John's incompetence and blamed them for forcing the editor's resignation. Kamholz concluded by comparing St. John to outgoing President Richard Nixon in the wake of Watergate, claiming that both men were "presumed guilty without the question of innocence . . . being considered."

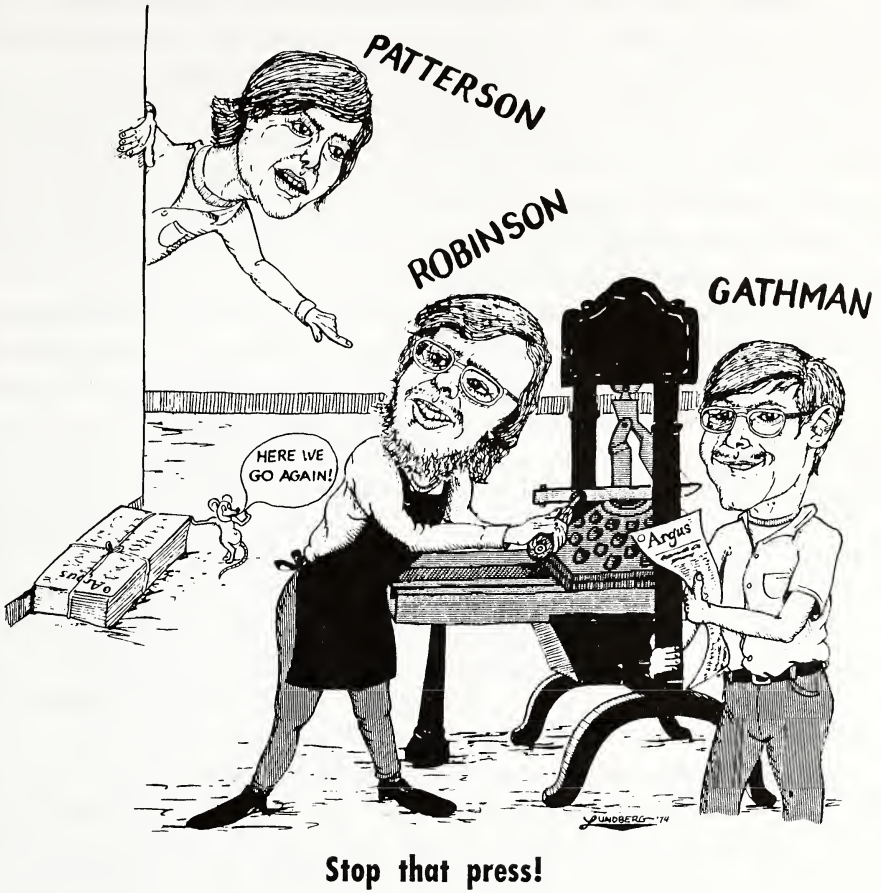
By November 30, 1973, Judy Bubert had taken the reins of *The Argus* with one thing in mind: "I think it's time to get *The Argus* out of politics and back into journalism," Bubert wrote in her first editorial. While her intentions may have been noble, she edited *The Argus* for only two issues before resigning due to personal reasons.

So, again, Gathman stepped into *The Argus* limelight and became co-editor, along with former managing editor Jim Robinson. Kamholz, who remained on the staff despite the change in editors, used his column to urge readers to be patient with *The Argus* and to explain why the newspaper had difficulties doing its best:

> For those of you who expect the same results as a professional newspaper, keep two things in mind: the people who work on it are students as well as employees, and the newspaper is not a private enterprise but it is *tied to the student government and, hence, subject to all kinds of political maneuvering.*

When Student Senate president Tom Patterson suggested in the next issue that *The Argus* leave the "realm of politics," Gathman and Robinson chose not to respond. Even when it came time for *The Argus* to endorse Senate candidates—the traditional time for vendettas to surface—the newspaper did not wholly endorse either Patterson or his opponent, Ed Matushek ('75). Instead, the March 1, 1974 editorial half-heartedly supported Patterson for re-election while highly recommending write-in votes. In this case, as with other flare-ups throughout the years, the controversy between Student Senate and *The Argus* came to an end only because the newspaper refused to fire back. By the end of the 1973-74 school year, Patterson had kept his job, Kamholz became chairperson of the media commission and Paul Breen, one of the most outspoken during the St. John affair, had the editorship of the newspaper.

While *Argus*/Senate battles have not been as heated since 1974, underlying tensions between the two organizations still flared. In the 1980s, *The Argus* noted that its relationship with Senate was "beginning to sound like the umpteenth round of Family Feud" (March 7, 1980). When Student Union com-



Although Argus-*Senate relations reached an all-time low in 1973-74, cartoonist Gary Lundberg provided some comic relief in this 1974 graphic of Senate President Jim Patterson and editors David Gathman and Jim Robinson.*

missioner Terry Mechling ('80) presented Senate with "a special report on **Argus** senate coverage," he said, "It is time the Student Senate stop the **Argus** from biting the hand that feeds it." Mechling proposed a motion that *The Argus* either fully support itself through advertising "or change editors—'find someone who is **for** senate.'"

Not all senators were against *The Argus*. Lee Christie ('81) told senate that "he felt it ridiculous that any newspaper be called upon to explain or answer for what it had written, and asked the senate if it felt the editors of the **Times** and **Washington Post** should answer to Congress or the President." In the end, Mechling's motion did not pass.

In an editorial that same issue, Don Thompson and his staff recognized Senate for the positive effect it had on the campus, noting that "being a senator is

often a thankless job" and that each year Senate is responsible for disbursing more than $90,000 collected from student activity fees. But the editorial concluded, "It remains a vital role of the Argus to cover, and comment on, how those student funds are spent, and the Argus will continue to do so."

As a matter of perspective, it should be noted that WESN also had its problems with Senate. The November 1, 1985 *Argus* reported that Senate fired the station manager and closed the radio station "after weeks of deliberation" because of alleged FCC violations. Cited for the shut-down: insufficient educational and cultural programming, improper training of freshmen and sub-professional quality of broadcasting and management.

Another dispute in November 1989 came when a columnist (who happened to be the president of the College Republicans) submitted his November 10 effort, "*The Argus* is too liberal," and assumed that it would be printed as a column. However, because the article attacked *The Argus*, its staff and its policies, editors were faced with an awkward decision: should they publish an attack from one of their own who has referred to the staff as "they," not "we"? The columnist labeled the newspaper "a piece of journalistic trash, constantly bombarding the Greek system and providing a narrow, liberal viewpoint on nearly every aspect of campus life." Under the editorship of J. Arlen Bowyer, the editorial board decided to print the column as a signed letter to the editor. The irate columnist, who also held a seat in Senate, raised the issue at the next meeting and called for an immediate Senate investigation of *The Argus*. As reported by features editor Bob Hessling, the columnist accused the newspaper of censorship, and a bitter debate ensued. Support for the idea began to build, but Senate president Amy Peterson ('90) calmed things down by talking with individual senators and referring individual gripes to the media commissioner. *Argus* adviser James Plath said that Peterson was "really level-headed" and might have put the matter to rest without any input from him. "But just to be on the safe side, I told her that as adviser to *The Argus*, my advice, in the event of any attempt by Student Senate to investigate the newspaper or regulate content, would be to stop publishing rather than allow its freedom to be jeopardized," Plath said.

While the media commissioner in 1989 served as a solution to the problem, later staffs have had friction with their Senate liasion. A dispute in spring 1992 demonstrated the change in Senate coverage. When Student Senate denied Tariq Khan's ('93) appointment as media commissioner—he had been jointly chosen by president Sara Kaufman ('93) and vice-president Adam Keys ('94)—*The Argus* not only gave the story front-page play, but covered the issue in the editorial. Khan, who had served on five of the seven campus media, originally lost the appointment because the outgoing media commissioner (Khan's most vocal opponent) said she felt he was not qualified. She then announced that the focus for the next year would be on WESN, the campus radio station.

Naturally, *The Argus* took exception. But unlike those from the mid-1970s, the editorial "Commissioner needs to focus on all media" (March 20, 1992)

relied more on logic than emotion:

> "WESN is going to be the main focus of the media commissioner next year," said outgoing media commissioner . . . during the most recent and controversial Senate meeting. Oh really? . . . In a perfect world, all aspects of Wesleyan media would work together. . . . The media commissioner—the very person who should see that Senate serves their best interests—should not place them in the position of competing with one another, whether fighting for funds or for his or her other attention or support.

The Argus, under the editorship of Darlene Ostrowski ('93), managed to address an issue that hit close to home without letting it take precedence over other campus news. Senate did finally approve Khan in an emergency meeting the following week, and, once again, the less the newspaper tried to square off against Senate, the better off the whole campus seemed.

Greek Battles of Not-Quite-Epic Proportion

As early as the 1950s, *The Argus* found ways to bash both Student Senate and the Greek system. A March 7, 1956 editorial criticized the organizations, claiming misrepresentation in Senate due to the domination of Greeks:

> In actual practice, however, Student Union representatives must maintain two loyalties . . . one to the student body and the other to their fraternities or sororities. We suspect that the latter loyalty receives more consideration than the former. Hence that apathy on the part of the unaffiliated who correctly look upon the Student Union as a playground for the petty issues of petty factions.

Any campus with Greek organizations inevitably finds itself polarized, at times, between the Greek and independent students. Just as predictably, such divisions make their way into the campus newspaper, where the staff members' allegiance shifts from year to year. Early *Argus* staffs were predominantly Greek, and so tension between the media and Greek system was non-existent. News pages often devoted weekly space to the Greeks, announcing initiations, socials, rush procedures and pledge practices. A typical example from the November 6, 1902 *Argus* read, "The Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity held their first initiation of the year last Thursday afternoon and evening. . . . At night the ritualistic work was done, and after this a spread was given in their honor at the T. K. E. lodge." Thirty-five years later, the newspaper still hailed every event, function and outing, with such items as "Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority . . . held an owl dance Monday night . . . a theater party Tuesday night . . . a casino party Wednesday night . . . a pirate party Thursday night" (September 29, 1931) and "Kappa Delta held its annual Homecoming meeting and spread at the chapter house" (October 21, 1936). While the newspaper confirmed its support of the Greek system in its pages week after week, some editors felt a certain tension. "There was a conflict between the Greeks and non-fraternity and sorority members," 1936-37 editor Ralph E. McCoy remembered. "The Greeks controlled the social life [on campus], and those who couldn't afford to join felt like second-

class citizens." If editors held any opinions against the Greek system, they felt compelled to keep those opinions to themselves—at least until the 1950s, when a greater percentage of students on campus were non-Greek.

Tensions between *The Argus* and the Greeks mounted in 1956, when editors claimed that Greek affiliation ran counter to Wesleyan's liberal arts program: "The editorial board refuses to recognize fraternities and sororities as integral parts of a liberal education in that they often become institutions of intellectual domination" (April 11). For the most part, however, anti-Greek bias was not always so clear. Wetzel explained that when he was editor in the late 1960s, "*The Argus* was never, in my memory, anti-Greek, but it was *perceived* as anti-Greek." Wetzel felt this perception was because Greek members no longer held the majority of editorial positions. People either did not feel comfortable working with a predominantly independent staff, or they did not have the time to devote to the newspaper.

"We spent, on average, up to 60 hours a week in *The Argus* office. The key was to find someone more dedicated to journalism than to being Greek. That wasn't always easy," Wetzel said. Former editor Ruth Nordin Zervas ('63) agreed. She admitted that during her 1961-62 editorship, the editorial board was completely independent, "but [Greek students] didn't care enough to come to the office to offer their help, either." This may have been why so few Greeks belonged to the newspaper staff, as a February 15, 1963 editorial stated:

> The very same students [who complain about the newspaper] have never thought of offering their services to correct the evils they believe exist in the content of the paper. Usually their criticism is not based upon what they have read in the paper, but is based upon what they think they have read in the paper.

When *The Argus* mentioned Greeks unfavorably in editorials or chose to print negative articles, it was often to comment on the social life offered by the Greek system. As a 1956 editorial put it, the Greek system was "a refuge from social rejection" (April 11, 1956).

Some *Argus* staffs made no attempts to hide their feelings, especially in the fall as fraternities and sororities were preparing for rush. The October 6, 1989 issue featured a cartoon panel of a cowboy with a Greek-letter branding iron who advised freshmen, "Keep things O.K. at the OK Corral . . . Don't **Rush** in, or you might get burnt." Because such unprovoked editorial outbursts made the Greek community understandably sensitive, any article written about the fraternity/sorority system that was not a showcase or endorsement was interpreted as being anti-Greek. Hard news pertaining to the Greek system became hard for them to take. When a freshman reporter covered the temporary closing of a fraternity house due to "health code violations" and reported the cockroach infestation and kitchen grease cited by health inspectors, he received threats from several of the fraternity brothers (September 20, 1991).

Response to the front-page article was overwhelmingly negative, with readers complaining about the newspaper's long-time bias. Many noted that the arti-

cle seemed a deliberate attempt to sabotage the Greeks on rush day—the day that the issue appeared. David Priess ('93), a representative of the Greek community, expressed their outrage:

> Despite previous experience with the anti-Greek slant of *The Argus*, we were shocked at the audacity and blatant bias evidenced . . . on the front page. . . . It is a disgrace that a paper supported by the fees paid by all Wesleyan students, including the lambasted Greek affiliates, has kept this trend in light of the facts. It is an embarrassment to the campus as a whole that the front page was turned into a billboard for anti-Greek bigots.

The problem, Plath told the staff in his weekly critique, was that the reporter neglected to lead with the most recent news—in this case, whatever steps the fraternity had taken to bring their building back up to health standards. "I can understand why the Greeks were upset," Plath said, "but it underscores the difficulty college newspapers face each day. The campus is far less forgiving of an off-day from a reporter than, say, a varsity football or basketball player who may have cost his team a victory."

Plath said that since he's been adviser, the newspaper has received a number of threatening calls. "The last one occurred in 1990, I believe, when the newspaper learned that an international student was severely beaten at a fraternity party. The callers were trying to get the editors to kill the story. But when you have a student who files a complaint with city police and needs treatment at a local hospital, bad publicity or not, you've got to run the story."

Tensions between independents and Greeks never seem to go away. Even in this relatively calm centennial year, editors ocassionally hear comments such as, "It was good to see an editorial that actually *endorsed* the Greek system," or "Please don't quote me on that—my house doesn't approve of *The Argus*."

Columnists Readers Loved to Hate

By far, columns elicited the greatest and liveliest response from students and faculty. While *The Argus* has had to remain objective and try not to intentionally anger campus groups, columnists have always been given the freedom to say whatever was on their minds and offend anyone they pleased. Certain writers fed off of negative energy and wrote to purposely annoy people or stir up the campus to get students thinking. These are the writers who stand out in *Argus* history.

Charles Martel, the columnist writing under a pseudonym during the 1960s, so fit the mold that he or she *had* to write anonymously. According to 1961-62 editor Ruth Nordin Zervas, Martel in his original year was a woman who "didn't need to hide behind a false name. She was the type of woman who would stand up in Senate meetings and yell." Martel's identity was a secret to the newspaper staff as well as the campus, since the writer dropped off his (or her) columns without anyone seeing. While Nordin Zervas hinted that Martel might have been 1962-63 editor Phylis Sanders Salak, Sanders Salak said that "No one on campus knew who he was. They had a strong assumption it was one person in particular, but they were wrong. I'll preserve the mystery," she said.

Martel had such a knack for annoying readers that complaints came not only from students, but from Bloomington-Normal residents and IWU alumni as well. One of his first columns in 1962 advised newcomers how to be "in" at Illinois Wesleyan:

> **Fraternities**: If you want to be in on this campus you should join a fraternity. Fraternities can teach you conformity and group think, both of which you need to be "in" . . .
>
> **Politics**: **You are a Republican**—and don't you forget it! This is a Republican university. It's easy to ridicule JFK and family—so go ahead and do it. You'll get a reputation as a quick political wit and "a good head." Practice saying "Peace Corps" and sneering at the same time.
>
> **To Sum Up**: Practice seeing the world from an upper-middle-class, Protestant-oriented, conservative, Republican, moderately pro-Greek point of view and you will be well on your way to being "in". . . . In short, insincerity and conformity are the keys to being "in" on this campus. (September 28, 1962)

In a single column, Martel was able to offend a majority of people in the Republican bastion of Bloomington-Normal. His column initiated a war of words with student Edward Coursey ('63), who responded with a letter on "How to be 'out'" (October 5, 1962). In it, he defended each of the traits and organizations that Martel had mocked, calling Martel "narrow-minded" and a "misfit." Martel defended himself and his column the following week. Soon, however, so many people were offended each week that Martel stopped addressing his readers, opting to simply write what he felt.

While the opinions of columnists do not "reflect the opinions of the editors," as *The Argus* staff "masthead" proclaims, editor Sanders Salak nonetheless defended Martel in print. When an alumnus wrote a letter chiding Martel for his notion that only the "rich and successful" come back to IWU for Homecoming (October 26, 1962), an editor's note followed: "The paper does not set out directly to make people happy, but to reflect student opinion and report campus news. It would be sad . . . if the situation were reversed" (November 2, 1962).

Martel became so infamous that his frank, liberal sentiment and legend were carried on in later years by others writing as Charles Martel II, III and IV in the 1963, 1964 and 1965 school years. While successors were eager to keep Martel an underclassmen forever—blasting the conservative campus majority, Greek "discrimination" or the pious attitudes of returning alumni—none were as enthusiastic or offensive as the original.

"The Gadfly" was another column written by multiple students over a span of 18 years. According to 1965 editor Bill Joyce ('66), the column began when "One of us was extremely hot about something and we couldn't talk about it in the editorial, because the board couldn't agree. But we liked the idea so much we just had to write and print it." Joyce admitted that the editor never wrote the column, but as to its specific author, "We made a blood vow never to tell," he said. The first Gadfly column began with comic-strip, crime-fighing flair, estab-

lishing the secret-identity columnist as one who would boldly comment on society's problems and Wesleyan's quirks:

> The Gadfly is not a leader, nor a pretender to authority; he is merely the conscience and whipping-boy so needed in our submissive age. He is especially needed now in this era of extreme passivism, ignorance and complete disregard for the real. He is especially needed on our campus where the only apparent opinion is no opinion at all. (February 19, 1966)

Since its debut, the column has faded in and out of *The Argus'* pages, appearing semi-regularly from 1966-72, 1974-77 and 1980-83. Initially, the column criticized university regulations and personnel, as in a December 1, 1967 column which demanded that the faculty stop acting as parents and trust students as equals: "The administration is interested in you as commodity: to sit behind a desk and to stand at the blackboard. They know the university exists for students. They've just avoided telling you." Likewise, an August 19, 1966 column assailed the adminstration for being "somewhat sluggish with a pitifully poor reaction to change"—a charge that would be echoed by successive Gadflys.

By the early 1980s, the outrage that powered the original Gadfly columns had diminished to stream-of-consciousness speculation ("If half the people I hear complaining about Mr. Reagan being our next president voted for somebody else then I don't believe Mr. Reagan could have won") and rhetorical questioning ("How much of our lives is the university allowed to control") to religion (November 7, 1980). By the time The Gadfly disappeared, its column had become full of personal anger and private jokes.

The more infamous columnists of the 1980s and 1990s never pretended to be spokespersons for society. They were the scourges, lone voices who had a knack for airing personal gripes with such twisted logic that a deluge of letters was sure to follow. Columnist John Snyder introduced himself in the September 14, 1988 edition as being "pro-life" and "pro-freedom," citing the Republican party as the "best tool to incorporate these views to work for the American people." Like other controversial columnists, Snyder dragged as many examples into his columns as possible, sometimes cluttering his point, as in this column which criticized the media:

> The media tells us that the Mid-East is full of "crazies" and that Americans should not go there. Could there only be a few bad apples in the group? Maybe the hanging of Col. Higgins could have been prevented, but not by blaming the Israelis. . . . When that nut pulled out the AK-47 down in Louisiana, or wherever, and started firing on his old employers, he could have easily killed an Iranian. That doesn't mean that Iran should be over there saying that the United States is full of these "crazies." (September 29, 1989)

Eventually, Snyder got to the point. He argued that the media chooses to make or break people, and urged students not to believe everything they read.

In an age where "political correctness" was the media standard, Tracy Krueger ('95) also took an opposite stand, extolling the virtues of political and

social conservatism, embracing traditional gender and religious values, and touting a person's right to an opinion—whether or not someone else thinks it sexist, racist or incorrect. Writing under his own name, Krueger and his right-wing conservatism caught the campus by surprise in the fall of 1992. One of his first columns, "Hate this country? It's not Bush's fault, it's ours," was followed by a barrage of letters with sentiments similar to those expressed by Josh Yount ('95): "In reading Mr. Krueger's first two columns of the year, I'm torn between whether he is jokingly proposing these ideas to elicit a response, or if he is really as crazy as his columns portray him to be" (October 9, 1992).

Despite such "fan mail," Krueger, like the controversial columnists before him, continued to offend week after week. Whether he was serious or simply baiting students, Krueger heightened interest, if not awareness. Each week the campus waited to read the latest hard-to-believe Kruegerisms—then wrote their own letters of outrage. After one of his 1992 columns bemoaned the moral decay of the United States and the promiscuous attitudes of its citizenry, students pronounced him "insane" and "misguided," but people certainly talked about it—in classrooms, living units, and Memorial Center hangouts.

The Argus and Campus Minorities

Essays from an 1896 sophomore writing class that were printed in *The Argus* as examples of superior argumentation included the front page article, "A Glance at the Indian Question." The student's argument revealed the racist but then-accepted attitudes of the time:

> We do not think it necessary to argue that the Indian is a savage. This fact is too well established to require proof. Neither would anyone but a savage require evidence that the white race is civilized. True, we have to accept the Indian as a branch of the human family, but were he judged from his habits of life, he would without doubt be placed among the brute creation rather than among human beings. (January 10, 1896)

In an article following this essay, *The Argus* used its freedom of speech to preach prejudice against American Indians, while voicing approval of the United States Indian reservation system. With this rejection of American Indian rights, the newspaper launched into a century of less-than-equal minority coverage—much of it understandable, given the fact that even in 1993-94, people of color compose only 14 percent of the student body.

A front-page essay in the October 29, 1912 *Argus* was preceded by an editor's note describing the author as "a colored student, who attended the Illinois Wesleyan for three years up to the time of his death in the spring of 1912." Though editors added that Clarence Johnson "commanded the esteem and respect of all his fellow students," *The Argus* never mentioned his death—nor did faculty minutes or *The* [Bloomington] *Pantagraph*.

Johnson's essay on "The American Negro" recounted the history of slavery and defended his culture against popularized racism. The writer acknowledged but one advantage to slave labor—"the owner had absolute power over his work-

ingmen and enjoyed the fruits of their labor"—but pointed out its many defects. Arguing that "a country cannot develop when there are so many to hold it back," Johnson conceded that "now and then we hear of some low and brutal negro assaulting a white woman," but added,

> The story is headlined accenting the fact that it was some "husky, burly negro" or if he is lynched the headline reads, "A big brute of a negro lynched for the common cause," which naturally arouses the strongest passion . . . The publicity given such acts creates the false impression that the negro as a class is lawless, while the contrary is true.

Though *The Argus* never ran such headlines, Johnson's essay was a reminder of the power the press has to alter public opinion. Yet, he concluded on an optimistic note, proclaiming that "all signs are encouraging."

The "sunlight" and optimism of which Johnson spoke had yet to reach the campus by 1943. In a campus poll, students were asked whether they favored racial integration at Wesleyan. At the time, IWU had no African-American students or faculty.

According to *The Argus*, one student believed that blacks should not be restricted from attending Wesleyan, though "we shouldn't necessarily encourage them." Another student felt integration depended on "the type of Negro he is. If he were of the better class, then it would be a good thing for the rest of the students to have him here, although some of them would hate it." Still another student gave a firm "no," because she felt that "while we might get along in the classroom, we wouldn't know where to draw the line in social activities" (March 1944). Throughout the 1950s, articles on blacks and black issues were ignored in favor of campus activities.

That lack of coverage persisted until December 1963, when America was still trying to cope with the loss of a president. *The Argus*, unable to devote space to Kennedy's assassination until three weeks later due to Thanksgiving break, reserved the December 6 opinion pages for a memorial tribute. Beneath the editorials and devotions appeared a poem titled "The Little Black Boy Watching," which described the feelings of a young shoe-shiner who worked on the streets of Washington, D.C. In his mourning, he found a common bond with whites as he describes his background and grief:

> . . . And that flag
> which lovingly embraces
> the casket
> On the caisson which also wheeled
> the great Old Man Abe—
> That flag is also my flag
> Father died for her on "D" day,
> And Grandpa on the Western front.
> And Bill my brother died for her in Korea . . .
> And my tears are crystal white
> like yours who are so fair and blond.

Rolling down my cheek they
might look brown
But your heart and my heart are
the same color
And we are brothers in sorrow . . .

Such a poem was obviously intended to remind or convince readers that people grieve the same—and by extension, *are* the same—regardless of color. Illinois Wesleyan apparently needed to be reminded, for in 1963 racial discrimination was highly evident. "Race Problems at Wesleyan," a column written under the pseudonym Charles Martel, critcized a group of IWU students who yelled racial slurs at a visiting black vocal group:

> There is a sick segment of our white student body who must find it agonizingly hard to put up with the infinitesimal Negro portion of the student body. . . . Sometimes I get violently disgusted when I think about the unbelievable baseness, the incredible cruelty, and the extreme self-degradation of which people of my age are capable. And we are the young. (February 8, 1963)

Martel attributed the racist comments to those whom he believed were present at the event—high school students and fraternity pledges. His column prompted two diverse reactions. One, written by a fraternity member, defended fraternities as "just as receptive to other races as those students not in fraternities. In some respects more so" (February 15, 1963). The author claimed that fraternities were not to blame, because a high school student started the disturbance. The second letter from 12 individuals applauded Martel's column, saying, "It is our sincere desire that this letter stimulate some serious thought on the moral and social implications of the situation and prompt students to question their individual positions concerning the whole area of race relations." Through such columns and letters, the issue of racism came to the forefront, and a moral conscience began to grow at Illinois Wesleyan.

But as the nation went, so went Wesleyan. Tensions mounted in the fall of 1968. In a year which had already seen the assassinations of two civil rights activists, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, *The Argus* reported an incident where students charged a local restaurant with racial discrimination. When a night manager "falsely accused" three IWU black students of harassing waitresses and disturbing business and subsequently called police, the students took their dispute to Student Senate to air their concerns. While no formal charges were filed against them, the students also reported the incident to the Illinois State Human Relations Commission (HRC). An October 18 article, "Lums apologizes after HRC probe," explained that written apologies were sent to the students after the HRC investigation. The night manager kept his job.

Although minority coverage never appears to have been a priority, the front-page placement of this story indicates that *The Argus* was willing to cover tough stories in a time of racial tension. Under the editorship of Bob Sweet ('69), *The Argus* also developed a weekly column on "IWU and the Black Student." While

it only ran five weeks, the column attempted to portray a range of ideas regarding the role of blacks on Wesleyan's campus; two black independent students, a white professor, a white Greek student and a white administrator wrote the columns. The final edition, "White 'progress' too little, too late," written by Black Student Association President Wenona Whitfield, expressed her loss of faith in the white Wesleyan community and her need to rely on the rise of black power:

> What the white community has shown me in two full years of attendance here at Wesleyan is that they for too long and too late have dealt with problems which are no longer relevant. Yet, though I am discontent with the white man's burden, I must take hope in the development of the black man, within that same period. The black student on this and other campuses has long forgotten your promises of good faith. Your main aim should no longer be how to place the black man in your culture, but rather how to place yourself in the black culture. (October 25, 1968)

The 1970s saw the rise of "Black Consciousness" . . . but not in *The Argus*. Other than the near-obligatory articles that ran during Black History Month each February—usually variations on the same theme, "we've come a long way, but there's still a long way to go"—the only article to appear was 1978's two-part "Black Calendar," a synopsis of major events in African-American history.

Despite attempts to educate students during Black History Month, an undercurrent of racism remained a part of campus life. From time to time student attitudes would surface, as in the February 16, 1990 front-page story which announced, "Ferguson R.A. dismissed for 'bad judgement.'" According to staff writer David Moll ('90), "A Ferguson Hall resident assistant was fired last week for posting a pamphlet that some students and administrators found racially offensive." The pamphlet, titled "Illini Basketball Players Entrance Exam," featured "caricatured [drawings of] black basketball players, and of a person in a Ku Klux Klan robe bouncing a black man's head and carrying a baseball bat." Moll reported that the pamphlets were posted in response to requests for more reading information in the bathrooms. Though the R.A. claimed that she did not read the pamphlets completely before posting them, she was fired because the incident caused a breach of trust between the R.A. and her residents.

While *Argus* staffers worked on the story, their faculty adviser received a late-night phone call from a member of the administration. According to Plath, the caller said that campus relations were "running pretty smoothly now," and that there was no need to stir things up. "I told him I understand completely, but added that's exactly the kind of thinking that would have kept Nelson Mandela in prison [in South Africa]," Plath said. "The caller replied, 'Okay, but see what you can do to make sure they report things fairly and accurately.'" Plath added that since he's been at Illinois Wesleyan (1988), that's all the administration has ever expected from the student newspaper.

Though the administration may have felt that racial tension had dissipated, it

surfaced again in a column written by Christopher Baron ('95) titled "You can't tell a racist by his cover" (November 21, 1991). Baron wrote that while he did not believe in the white supremacy advocated by former Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard and then-Louisiana gubernatorial candidate David Duke, he did agree with Duke's opinion that affirmative action and forced bussing should be abolished. Baron tried to make the point that holding a belief shared by an avowed racist does not, by association, make him (or anyone else) a racist. But his column elicited a fiery response from an anonymous letter-writer who accused Baron of racism because he *did* agree with some of Duke's theories. "Baron represents a large number of students on this campus and provides another example of the increase of racism in the past ten years," the writer claimed, arguing that it was simply one person's way of trying to justify attitudes that would keep minorities in the minority.

Months later, the nation was reminded of racism's continuing presence when the first Rodney King verdict, which acquitted two white police officers of police brutality against a black man, was released. While L.A. and parts of the nation rioted, Wesleyan gathered in peace. As reported in "King verdict inspires local activism" (May 8, 1992), a peace rally brought more white students than black. Wesleyan student Joy Meadows ('93) commended Wesleyan's peaceful protest, saying, "we [African-American students] don't always feel we have [whites'] support."

But support was not campus-wide. *The Argus* reported on May 8 that some students said they witnessed employees from the advancement office destroying signs promoting the rally. After petitions demanding apologies from the workers were circulated, the administration responded. According to *The Argus*, "[President] Myers said the employees 'acted spontaneously and personally. They were not acting on official orders from the university.'" The advancement office apologized on behalf of their employees.

Despite the lack of advertising, a larger-than-expected crowd gathered on the quad, and an *Argus* editorial applauded Wesleyan solidarity: "While other campuses rioted and plundered, Wesleyan staged a non-violent and well-organized demonstration. . . . For a small college where demonstrations occur and the majority of the student population could care less, this protest had a different atmosphere." At Illinois Wesleyan, according to *The Argus*, any demonstration that raised student consciousness was truly an event to be witnessed.

After 100 years, has the campus progressed as far as Clarence Johnson hoped in 1912? A December 11, 1992 front-page article questioned, "Is there racism at Wesleyan?" And as the saying goes, If you have to ask. . . .

A year later, Meadows provided an answer in this letter to the editor:

> I am the only African-American senior woman on this campus. That statement is not meant to involve feelings of sympathy and/or liberal guilt. It also may be of little relevance to the average reader, but, for me, it has meant almost four years of alienation and frustration. . . . I cannot

> escape the struggle of people of color. I can, however, for the next few years enjoy the luxury of being simply Joy, not "Joy, you know, the black girl." (February 19, 1993)

For the 1993-94 school year, 86 percent of the students enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan were Caucasian; 4 percent were Asian; 3 percent were African-American; 2 percent were Hispanic; 1 percent were American Indian; and 4 percent were "other."

CHAPTER 7

Now Featuring...

The Good Old Days

During its first decade, *The Wesleyan Argus* printed short news notes (similar to those in pre-*Argus* publications) to fill its inside pages. Among the most interesting:

The university once maintained an extensive science museum in the basement of Hedding Hall, and on December 20, 1894, the newspaper reported that "A collection of 175 stuffed birds and 75 stuffed mammals, from Central and South America has been received at the Wesleyan for the museum. They come from the Smithsonian institution at Washington, being some of the duplicates of that immense museum."

Birds were apparently quite beloved in the early days of "the Wesleyan," since it was customary for students to purchase and deliver turkeys to their often-unappreciative professors at the end of the term. According to *The Argus*, the university president was a good sport: "The logic class held a special session the last day of last term, and Miss Matheny in behalf of the class, with a very 'cute [sic] speech, presented Dr. Wilder with a live, twenty-pound turkey" (January 14, 1895).

According to *Argus* reports, faculty and student interaction has been a tradition at Illinois Wesleyan. But socializing was much less complicated when the graduating class numbered only 19 and could be treated to a last meal at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Wilder:

> The class went in a body with caps and gowns and new college colors flying. Mrs. Cooper [the housekeeper] served a beautiful supper, after which came the very novel and entertaining feature of the evening. Almost every Senior read an original poem. . . . (June 5, 1895)

Along with such items, the 1895 *Argus* printed the first full-length features to appear in a Wesleyan publication. In "A Successful Alumnus," an anonymous writer told of Joseph F. McNaught (1877), who began working as general counsel for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in Seattle when the city was "a mere village, consisting of a few wooden buildings and a population of 2000 people" (November 15, 1895). The article gave a full account of McNaught's role in reclaiming tidelands.

Occasionally a feature appeared on the front page, as with professor M.J.

Elrod's "Vacation in Montana," in which he reported his trip to an Indian mission, combining information and impression: "The Indian will not hunt, except for large game. Ducks and geese swarm on the ponds, creeks, and lakes, the valleys are alive with chickens and the woods full of grouse, but the Indian pays no attention to such small fry" (November 3, 1899).

When the newspaper's page size expanded from 1903-08, features dwindled. About this time, however, even the professors began to write in a more featurish style, with professor Cliff Guild abandoning jargon in favor of a more colloquial description of "The Solar System" (November 20, 1907). Meanwhile, students were blending fact and fiction to create a form that would be termed "New Journalism" some 65 years later. In "Christmas on the Carribeau," freshman Floyd Godfrey paired narrative with family history in a tale of shipwreck which concluded in rousing, tear-jerking fashion: "How the poor creatures screamed and yelled and jumped about as nearer drew their aid. It was a ship—to take them home" (January 17, 1908). Travel articles also were popular, with such offerings as "Five Hours in Pompeii" (December 1, 1909), "Athletics in Japan" (December 15, 1909) and "Mountain Top Experiences of My Last Summer's European Trip" (February 23, 1910).

Beginning in October 1908, the *Illinois Wesleyan Argus* (as the new nameplate proclaimed) launched a series on "Chapters in Wesleyan Life." At a time when the university expanded to include 58 instructors and 1100 students (counting the preparatory and law schools, as well as anyone who took music lessons), the features were understandably introspective and nostalgic. The first, "Shall the Literary Societies Die?" recalled a time "when Wesleyan had live literary societies" and "the faculty published a quarterly magazine and the students a weekly paper. Now a bi-weekly organ edited by the students is all that remains of Wesleyan literary endeavor" (October 29, 1908). Later features in the series read like parts of the university's mission statement, outlining "Our Spiritual Activities" (November 26, 1908 and April 27, 1909) and reexamining rules of conduct for chapel and other religious observances.

A High Society?

Articles on campus traditions also frequently ran in *The Argus*. Among the liveliest was this June 10, 1913 account in which writers described the annual "Pajama Parade, Greeks in an Expurgated Revel," when in the wee hours

> venturesome spirits from one of the fraternities donned their garb for retiring and sallied forth to recruit others of their kind for an early Tuesday morning nightshirt parade. The dormitories of every house were raided, one by one, and the sleepers dislodged by feet, arms, legs, and otherwise pressed into line. After having made the rounds it was discovered that there were in line forty-three pairs of pajamas, eighteen night shirts, two bath robes and two men otherwise attired. . . . Mrs. Williams responded with threats of calling the patrol, but as three policemen had already made speeches for the company, the threats were unheeded.

The pajama parade stops at the McLean County Courthouse (1927).

Details made this more than a simple news story, for the writers chronicled every step of the Pajama Parade, from the "melodious singing" to "Juliets" waving out of their windows at the women's residence hall, and from the "Wesleyan yells" and "steady tramp of bath room slippers" to the "beat of tin pans, drums and county fair squawkers" that answered them. The parade marched around Bloomington City Square, down to the Illinois Hotel, then traveled

> back down Main street to the dormitory, then to the homes of a few of the professors, where the drowsy scholars were given rude invitations to sally forth and deliver their best lectures which they did with the best grace possible. At 3 o'clock in the morning, chapel was held with full ceremonies. Refreshments were served. . . . After chapel was dismissed the color rush pole was pulled up, the rocks on the campus picked up and heaved at Normal U. tower and the Greeks went back to Athens and to bed.

"It was a good live night. Amen," the article concluded. And according to *The Argus*, more than a few rowdy nights ended at the chapel, which in the early years was used for school assemblies of the high school sort. The inside pages were full of social events that, while not exactly front-page news, were an important part of college life. One account described the traditional rivalry between the freshmen and sophomore classes:

> Rumors were heard last week that a freshmen party was on foot. As a result several innocent freshies were raised from their peaceful slumber

> and kindly dunked in a watering trough. One of them also had a glowing sunset scene painted on his shirt-front by an addled egg. A few feeble yells in chapel the next morning gave evidence that several freshies were still in existence. . . . Colors were raised; the walks and buildings draped with paint and confusion for a period reigned supreme. (October 22, 1907)

The flag or "color rush" rivalry was so much a part of campus folklore that *The Argus* immortalized the annual conflict in an eight-stanza ballad on their December 15, 1908 front page, written in quasi-Middle English, no less:

> O listen, listen, Ladye gaye,
> A song I'll synge to thee,
> Of the Freshman-Sophomore Color-rushe,
> Alle onne a brave Mondye.
> The Freshmen stood in serried fyghte
> Around a rustye pole
> To guarde theyre cherished colors bryghte,
> The frenzied Sophomores' goal.

Two more stanzas described the sophomore rush at the flagpole, whereupon the leader of the "Sophs" met with less than success:

> The Freshmen dragged hym in the dyrte
> With loude and merrye dynne;
> A parte of them retayned hys shyrte,
> The reste of them hys skynne.
> For five-and-fortye minutes tyme
> They fought upon the field,
> Nor coulde the Sophs the flag-pole clymbe,
> Nor woulde the Freshmen yelde.

Illinois Wesleyan was once rich in non-academic traditions, and *The Argus* devoted a great deal of space to reporting all of the customs and social events. In addition to officially sponsored functions, students had their own traditions, as reported in the November 12, 1920 *Argus*. Annual excursions included "class tramps to Twin Grove, beef steak frys at Orendorf Springs [and] piking [senior cut day] at Mackinaw Dells." The article also alerted freshmen to other somewhat sacred customs:

> Seniors always sit in the front seats in the middle of Amie Chapel. No other class may have those seats. Also, all the rest of the classes wait until the seniors float triumphantly down the aisle and then humbly follow. . . . Always bow to a senior and do not show direspect by contradiction. . . . No one but a senior can use the stone bench on campus, not even for purposes of love. Every Wesleyan student is expected to attend all functions and games that are for all the students . . . it is the custom of freshmen here, as in any other well regulated college, to wear green caps. You should take great pride in wearing these and wear them voluntarily for they signify that you are beginning to learn the traditions and

> loyalty to the best college in the world. . . . We require here that every freshman learn to give every Wesleyan cheer, and sing every Wesleyan song from memory before the year is over. That's our style.

Each year, the YMCA and YWCA sponsored events for freshmen and other new students, but the first big social event of the fall was their jointly sponsored Annual Grind. According the the September 30, 1914 issue, students looked forward to this all-campus "mixer," where males and females "marched though the main reception rooms; then out upon the lawn, and back to the main reception hall. As the partners were reversed at regular intervals it gave the students opportunity of meeting the new students." Afterwards, everyone gathered in the dining halls for ice cream and wafers. Then came the singing of "college songs," replaced in later years by live bands—just as the conversation-line would yield to dancing. And the event was indeed all-campus. The October 8, 1908 *Argus* reported that "almost the entire student body, both literary and law, turned out to participate," while the following year's newspaper provided details on how the "mill" ground students together:

> After a busy season of handshaking and introductions and greetings the mill was started and, although it clogged up once, was finally put in working trim. The grind proceeded with its usual levity and sprightliness of conversation and action till all were pretty well ground up. (October 20, 1909)

Put in simple, mathematical terms: "X equals unknown Girl, Y equals unknown Boy, Z equals Grind. X plus Y equals Z" (September 25, 1925). Eventually, for

The annual "Grind," —Illinois Wesleyan's all school mixer (1953).

unknown reasons, the Grind disappeared from New Student Week. But as late as the 1970s, students were run through the mill *long* before final exams.

Other traditions reported by *The Argus* were not as long-lived. Senior Pikers' Day—where seniors cut class or chapel in favor of a picnic or other diversion—apparently ground to a halt when the faculty objected to the idea of an organized "cut." On May 29, 1910, the senior class took the train to Mackinaw Junction and camped on the riverbank, where they fished and picnicked. Faculty later threatened to force the seniors to take the final exams from which they had been exempted. Although *The Argus* reported that faculty finally "pardoned" the delinquent seniors, the newspaper added that it "bodes ill for the students who shall ever attempt such a thing in the future" (June 14, 1910).

In addition to Wesleyan's sizzling social scene, the inside pages showcased more traditional feature stories on people, places and trends. "What Men Like In Girls" advised Wesleyan's female population that

> Tenderness and affection are as much appreciated by men. . . . It pleases a man to see a woman he loves gentle and considerate in her home life. . . . A certain maidenly dignity always pleases a man. Underneath the girlish love of jollity and pleasure he delights to know there is a sturdy sense of justice that will respect his rights as well as her own. (October 16, 1916)

Wesleyan's female population must have heeded this advice quite well, for an October 3, 1917 article, "Cupid Drops Bombs on Wesleyan," gave short descriptions of 21 student and alumni couples who marched to the altar during that wartime year.

Roaring in Bloomington: The 1920s

By the 1920s, a certain madness was in the air. But the article describing the wildest antics featured not students, but faculty members, who, "piling into trucks, flivvers, or interurban vehicles" with their "wives, children, footballs, volley balls, indoor base balls, the inevitable horse shoes and GRUB," headed for a Camp Johnson retreat (October 30, 1923). *The Argus* was on hand to witness one "Faculty Frolic in the Woods," reporting that

> Prof. Wood proved himself an experienced fire builder and soon had a gypsy cooking fire around which the ladies toasted their toes and on which Prof. Napoli roasted many a popper of sweet, Italian chestnuts. The "Boys" meanwhile had started a football game. . . . Miss Laughlin gave a demonstration of a dramatic kick while all focused imaginary opera glasses at the scene. . . . Doc Piersel was at his best, or, as his wife might say, his worst . . . the jug juice or something else made him think that he was a wild, whooping Indian and he entertained the crowd in his jolliest fashion. Mrs. Ferguson laid herself open to suspicion by gathering some beautiful hops. . . . Doc Piersel was heard to remark that he would be normal by the time he should meet his Monday classes. Hurray for our lively profs!

Prohibition, of course, had no effect on Illinois Wesleyan, because the campus was dry to begin with—and so was the humor of one April Fool's issue which, as late as 1931, glorified bootleggers, bathtub gin and gambling. Editor Madeleine Anderson Cutright and her staff renamed the paper *Our Gus*, subtitled "of Capone's Booze Syndicate." The issue was labeled "Not Much Volume . . . Try Number Ten—It's Hot," while tease boxes urged, "Read It . . . & Weep." A bottom headline proclaimed, "Al Capone Buys Wesleyan Cheap! Main Hall To Be Renamed 'Capone Hall of Paradise.'" Though every staff member had a gangster nickname, Anderson listed the editor-in-chief as "Eve," and her assistant editor, George Withey ('32), as "Adam." Their editorial, meanwhile, sarcastically pledged "to make the stern suppression of gaiety and women's rights the aims for which we will give the entire remainder of our utterly worthless and useless lives."

During the 1920s, a great many features appeared on "girls" and male-female relationships—not surprising, since gender roles were being questioned after women won the right to vote in 1920. The women's movement had come to Bloomington. One article, "Modern Out-of-Door Girl Much Superior to Tired Bookworm," assured Wesleyan women that taking up outdoor activities would not diminish their femininity (March 25, 1926). Another on fashion had "Wesleyan Men Worried Over Co-Eds," with the writer complaining,

> Not satisfied with running the men out of the barber shops, the female students of Wesleyan University have taken to buying men's clothes at such a rate that the poor male will soon feel as much out of place in a haberdashery as he used to in the dry goods store. After interviewing some of the leading clothing dealers of Bloomington, there can be little doubt left in the wondering minds of the male population. (November 4, 1924)

The author of this "trend" story went on to lament, "Time was when the bashful girl would enter the clothing store, timidly make her purchase and make as hasty an exit as possible. All this is changed. Now she will look the clerk in the eye when he asks 'What size?' and manfully proclaim, 'My size.'" The writer also added that

> The Wesleyan co-eds have adopted the men's pajamas. . . . Just how far the feminine invasion of male rights will go, the haberdashers are unwilling to say, but it is generally concluded that in order to distinguish the sexes, the male will soon have to go back to the night gown and the Elizabethan days of funny collars and short pants. (November 5, 1924)

Another article on finding "the ideal mate" asked, "Is the present generation money mad?" (May 14, 1925). None of the students surveyed said they'd marry for money, choosing "character" instead. "Only two granted that appearance was a prime essential for an ideal mate. Only one felt that health was of utmost importance." And only sixteen Wesleyan students were asked.

As students turned their interests beyond campus issues, professors were a

ready source of feature material. During the 1924-25 school year, editors printed parts of Professor Frederick M. Thrasher's final report on Chicago gangsters and politicians that, if published in full, would have turned "the whole government of Chicago upside down" (November 19, 1924). Thrasher, a professor of economics and sociology, also shared his insights on female "flappers," whom, he said, believed that "personality is physical," considered "all advice abstract" and loved "continual change" (December 10, 1924). Another story told of the Wesleyan professor who survived the sinking of the Titanic. Professor Albert F. Caldwell told the January 25, 1925 *Argus* that passengers took their time getting to lifeboats because "we knew we were on the greatest and safest ship in the world." *The Argus* neglected to answer one obvious question: how Professor Caldwell was saved?

Students also served as sources for features. Wesleyan students were so hungry for information about a world beyond Illinois that *The Argus* printed a story about a Bloomington High School student's 1924 summer experience at the famed Breadloaf School of English in Vermont (April 23, 1925). And a feature on "Interesting Details On Girls In Korea," by Bessie Lim, a visiting international student, must have been of special interest to Wesleyan males still trying to figure out American women (November 10, 1927). A long feature in the May 24, 1927 issue gave an update on the university's first Rhodes Scholar. Reuben Borsch ('25), co-captain of the 1924 Green and White basketball team and .400 batter for the "ball nine," told *The Argus* "He is now out for the Oxford crew. Recent reports have him in heavy training, but he manages to read a little law now and then."

The Argus occasionally went off campus to bring readers outside features. During spring 1925—just four years before the stock market crashed—*The Argus* featured a six-part series reprinted from *Open Road Magazine* on "Making Good In Business."

Thirty-something

Curiously, the feature almost disappeared from *The Argus* during the 1930s. Space was taken up primarily by announcements of campus concerts and recitals, and an "Official [University] Announcements" section. Only in the 1931-32 school year were features a part of the daily reader's diet.

Following a construction boom—with Memorial Gym, Buck Library and Presser Hall all built in the 1920s—*Argus* editors took inventory of campus buildings in a series that told the history of each.

The first article called Wilder Field "the heart of the school" (September 29, 1931) and informed students that the field once faced north and south, and that the original grandstand burned down in 1904. A feature on Kemp Hall was full of similar trivia. A women's dormitory since 1912, Kemp housed all of the freshman girls and others who wanted to experience its "student house government" and "many traditional affairs." Other students lived in area homes and in a nearby boarding house. Of Kemp, staff writer Dorothy Mae Hughes Kalvelage

('36) wrote,

> Until four years ago there were no sorority houses permitted on the Wesleyan campus, and any out-of-town girl, whether freshman or senior, was privileged to live in the hall. . . . The lawn of Kemp is the customary starting point for the procession of pajama-clad fraternity men on their march to the square on the night of the Pajama Parade during Homecoming. . . . Every year the swing on the wide porch and the comfortable seats in the living room do their bit to encourage youthful love affairs. (October 13, 1931)

While the Depression appears not to have affected students the way it did the rest of the nation, some sought to see what life was like outside the "Wesleyan Bubble." A front-page feature told how staff writer John Paul Jones ('34)

> sallied forth in search of first hand information in regards to hobo life to find out exactly how and where they live, whether or not deserving unemployed men were among their numbers, and just how easy it was for them to beg on the streets. (November 24, 1931)

Wearing ragged clothes, *The Argus* reporter went west on Market St. to the Illinois Traction tracks until he came to a "hobo jungle" in the deserted mine buildings opposite the C. and A. depot. There he was

> accepted as one of the crowd . . . of about thirty negroes and fifteen whites . . . segregated, the whites being in a small building and the negroes quartered in a large machinery room. Five fires served as a cooking place for meals, a means of heating water for washing clothes, and, as darkness approached, a light.

The hobos shared their secrets of finding food, telling Jones to go to "Shelper's Mission on South Main, to certain parish houses, a small grocery store near the jungle, and to certain cafes." For rest, he was sent to the Salvation Army to "'flop' on a bed with no mattress and cover. Since it was necessary that two persons occupy the same bed," however, Jones decided to spend the night on the streets instead. Begging, he found that out of seven people he approached, only two turned him down. The rest were generous, including Professor Waddell, who did not recognize his student. "As easy as it [the hobo life] may appear on the surface," Jones wrote, "I would not advise it for a steady diet."

A year later, *The Argus* published another account of a fellow who took time off from Wesleyan to venture into the real world. From 1923-25, Eldred Sleeter ('34) was a Wesleyan student working at the local YMCA, where several circus acts practiced in the gymnasium each winter. Sleeter said "it was here where I spent many of my idle hours in practice as a pastime, in an attempt to learn the tricks that the performers did." He learned "the 'flying return' act or the 'flying trapese' act," which catapulted him into "The Big Top" working for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus (December 8, 1932).

Apart from those two exceptions, *Argus* features stayed closer to home and dealt with topics that spanned the decades: rush procedures, studenthood and holiday traditions. Until the war years, routine announcements would dominate

The Argus pages.

The 1940s: If it ain't got that swing . . .

Not everything in the 1940s was war-related. Male-female relationships were still on students' minds, if the amount of space they received in *The Argus* was any indication. One *Reader's Digest*-style compatibility test tells much about the values of the time. "Girl's Merits" included the ability to carry on an interesting conversation, a good sense of humor, high ideals and active church membership, with merits given if she "wears her clothes well and dresses to fit her figure and personality, praises her boyfriend in public, has spunk," is a good cook and "writes interesting and jolly" letters. "Boy's Merits" were awarded if he "remembers birthdays, frequently compliments girl friend on her looks, clothes, cooking," is healthy and athletic, likes sports, "is fond of children, is a careful automobile driver, a steady worker or good student, [and] attends church or encourages girl friend if she is an active member." The article listed "Demerits" as well, if the woman

> wears bright red nail polish, is very suspicious and jealous, flirts too much with other men at parties or in restaurants, talks too much about her other boy friends or the shows and places to which they have taken her, uses profanity, smokes or gambles, tells risque or vulgar stories, corrects boy friend's speech or actions in public, [is] apologetic regarding her parents [and] seems ashamed to have boy meet them.

For the "boys," demerits were given if he "criticizes his girl friend in public, tries to flirt with other girls while on a date, fails to bathe or change socks often enough, uses profanity or tells vulgar stories, is very suspicious and jealous, uses alcohol, tells lies" (October 15, 1941).

A feature on "Schoolgirls Should Know!" (February 25, 1945) reprinted excerpts from an article published in a popular magazine by R.M. Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago. Though Hutchins dismissed the myths of women being more artistic than men and argued for "the same training" to be given to "boys and girls," he also added that "The importance of marriage and housekeeping cannot be over-emphasized. They are so vital that mothers should assume the responsibility of giving the necessary information to their daughters. These facts cannot be left to the academic programs. . . ." Aside from the male-female and war-related features, only brief speaker profiles occurred with any regularity. A feature on Frances Hilden (the former IWU student who rose to become "the goddess of struggling dramatists" on Broadway) told how the former speech and drama major became a top theatrical agent (February 18, 1942). Another story featured a psychologist's rules for maintaining civilian morale (January 21, 1942).

As with the 1930s, announcements of campus activities dominated the inside pages. One issue, for example, featured these announcements: the "Masquers" (drama club) was looking for new members; new records have been ordered for the "Dimmie Dances" at the Student Union; and Sigma Kappa pledges were sur-

prised with a "jail house" informal (December 2, 1941). Another announced new Sigma Alpha initiates, the Sigma Alpha Iota dance, a Sigma Chi house party, a Phi Gamma Delta reception, a Kappa Delta dance, a Beta Kappa house party, a Phi Mu Alpha road trip, a Delta Omicron open house and the selection of the "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" (October 10, 1941). In fact, *The Argus* was so full of meeting and activity announcements that it prompted one columnist to complain,

> Meetings, meetings, meetings! Betty Coed is up to her neck with clubs and other campus activities. . . . She is carrying only 14 hours, but she still can't find time to drop in at the Hut and taste those delicious pies. Being practical, aren't there any clubs, committees or organizations that could be eliminated? The war angle has almost been worn out. . . . (January 31, 1945)

Rest and relaxation features also appeared, such as the half-page account of Dr. and Mrs. Mortimer's Florida vacation in 1945, or the photo of another faculty wife hefting a 22-pound muskie she caught on their fishing vacation. The December 20, 1944 issue feaured a personal experience article, "Miss Elizabeth Hill Meets Hindu Leader Ghandi," wherein a McLean County nurse told of her experiences in India. Another feature saw an *Argus* reporter wander up "the crushed rock paths leading to the green and white temporary housing units [formerly the veterans' barracks] north of the tennis courts." Six faculty families had moved into the four-room units, using coal stoves for heat and still waiting for cooking stoves to arrive (December 18, 1946).

But the January 24, 1945 issue had to reach back to 1912 to tell the story of 550-pound Leonard "Baby" Bliss, the largest Bloomingtonian and a nationally-known bicyclist, according to *The Argus*. The newspaper reported that as a Wesleyan student in 1887, Bliss weighed a mere 350 pounds. When the campus newspaper first reported his death in a January 11, 1912 issue, the reporter noted that "the Bloomington giant" once rode his bicycle in all the principal cities of Europe. When he died, "although the thermometer was ten degrees below zero, between 2500 and 3,000 people went to take a last look at the remains as he lay in state."

Saddle Shoes and Beanies: Life in the Fifties

Features coverage in the wake of the war continued to depict a jolly "Wesleyland." A national feature in the September 19, 1951 edition explained how males, with a little thread, were able to needle females. "Man Seeks Retribution on Woman By Designing Her Latest Fashions" observed that "The Voodoo Doll has been replaced by an old broom stick and the male designers take fiendish glee in twisting cloth about it in odd fashions . . . the male has had but one intent—to ruin the female species." The article traced fashion trends since the turn of the century, noting that "in grandma's day" women wore silver lamé turbans and sequined dresses. "Mama," on the other hand, wore even uglier flapper dresses and washtub hats which gave way to wartime fashion: "Up

Manhunt: looking for a best Beau (1954).

with the skirts! Down with the necklines! War days were days of conservation and the female couldn't even hide her modesty. Then came peace and rehabilitation. Zoom! Up went the necklines and down came the skirts."

The fashion-conscious *Argus* asked women to choose Wesleyan's "Beau Brummell" (October 27, 1954). The character Beau Brummell appeared in a 1954 movie of the same name, starring Stewart Granger, who portrayed the "elegant scoundrel, spendthrift, and leader of fashions" opposite Elizabeth Taylor. Although the Student Union and Esquire Theater, co-sponsors of the event, did "not offer IWU's Beau Brummell such a prize as Elizabeth Taylor" the winner became a member of the American Society of Beau Brummells, which glorified "better grooming and better manners" and whose "No. 1 honorary member" was President Dwight D. Eisenhower. After a tough fight, Bob Lewis ('53) joined Ike in the society.

But even Wesleyan's dashing Beau Brummell had to lower himself to wearing a green beanie as a freshman. The tradition of beanie wearing was at least as old as Homecoming, which began in 1917. All "green" freshmen were required to wear the dubious mark of distinction until either Wesleyan won its Homecoming football game or, if the Titans lost, until Thanksgiving break. Staff writer Bob Byler's ('52) November 2, 1950 feature, "Ready to Ditch the Beanies?" described the knowledge freshmen had to acquire—mastering IWU's long lines, sleepless nights and student union coffee—to make them worthy of "throwing their toppers in the Homecoming bonfire."

Like the fate of many other long-standing traditions, the idea of beanies began to wear thin. A November 17, 1954 article expressed an unnamed freshman's desire to throw the beanie into the fire before putting it on his or her head:

> Reports varied on who was supposed to wear the beanies, and for how long. One source said that only pedges had to contend with them. . . . Another source informed me that they were to be worn until

Homecoming, but still another source set the deadline at Thanksgiving. Finally, someone told me that no one had to wear them. This was beginning to sound like a report on the recent election results.

By 1967, the entire campus jumped on the burn-the-beanie bandwagon. A September 22, 1967 Gadfly column declared that "Upperclassmen suppress amused snickers, smile knowingly and assert that '**no one** ever wears a beanie.' It becomes unbearably clear that the student body, not the admisistrators, know what **no one** does—and **no one** wears a beanie." Two years later, the tradition died when a Senate-developed Student Committee About Beanies (SCAB) voted to make beanie sales optional under the jurisdiction of the Student Senate.

Less lively campus history features also appeared during the 1950s, with the April 23, 1952 "Spring Festival" *Argus*—an issue designed for visiting high school students—chronicling the history of the art department. The article revealed that Wesleyan's Wilson College of Arts and its famed "Department of Crayon" were actually located in downtown Bloomington and did not become officially affiliated with the university until 1890. In 1929, the arts college moved to Presser Hall. Since then, "the future Rembrandts and Picassos of the arts school create the art work which has earned for Wesleyan the reputation of having one of the finest schools of art in the middle west."

IWU President Lloyd Bertholf donned a beanie in the freshman tradition (1958).

With the paper advertising post-graduate Fulbright Scholarship awards for international study, and with 15 international students on campus during the 1957-58 school year, it's no surprise that *The Argus* ran a fall feature series on the latest eight arrivals from Korea, Japan, China, Korea, Malaya and Nigeria. One such feature reported that Kathy Chung, a ballet dancing enthusiast from Seoul, South Korea, majored in home economics. (The university dropped home economics from its curriculum in 1971.)

The 1960s: Huts, Housemothers, Drugs and Playboy

The features of the 1960s reflected a nationwide transition that turned America from a state of post-war bliss to a state of anxiety. In the first five or six years of the decade, the newspaper continued to print features on students, cultures and traditions outside the continental United States. An article on Amy Nishijima Yoshihara ('65) described her home in Hawaii and her anticipation at seeing the first snow. Likewise, the October 8, 1965 issue featured similar stories on students from Panama and India, and in February 1966 another series on countries appeared. Curiously, along with profiles on Sweden and Thailand, one on Vietnam also appeared—just four months before American bombers attacked Hanoi, the North Vietnamese capital, on June 29, 1966.

Short term travel features also provided *The Argus* with international subject matter. Richard Moody's (December 9, 1966) article, "See the world during short term," told how Wesleyan's 4-1-4 academic calendar (adopted in the 1964-65 academic year) gave students the time to take month-long political science courses in Norway, Sweden and Denmark, as well as a foreign language course in Mexico. Professors also planned a political science seminar in Egypt, but it "was discontinued due to small class enrollment and to political unrest in the Middle East at the present time."

As with former decades, *The Argus* of the early 1960s was drawn to histories of campus buildings. Sketches of Duration Hall, Kemp Hall and Buck Memorial Library gave students a chance to see their campus in a historical context. The April 6, 1962 issue profiled "the Hut," one of Wesleyan's lesser known buildings. Located behind Kemp Hall, the Hut was first a carriage house and then a garage before the school bought both buildings in 1911. Although, as a garage, it housed one the first automobiles in the Bloomington area, as a campus hangout the Hut really revved up. In the early years it was a general meeting place mostly used for YM and YWCA parties. Later on, it became a snack bar and then Spotlight Alley—the drama building in the 1960s, with an intimate theater that held 99 people. But in this feature, staff writer David Slick ('64) reported that "The need for a new drama building is very apparent. Besides the small size and inadequate facilities of the present drama building, it also is a potential fire trap." The administration eventually acknowledged the Slick plea. By 1964, Spotlight Alley had given way to the IWU bookstore, which had moved from Holmes Hall.

Students in the 1990s who think of protest and tie-dye when they envision the 1960s might find it surprising that a saccharine feature on moms appeared in the November 18, 1966 *Argus*. "New Housemothers find rewards" praised the moms-away-from-mom for being "always the first to admire the diamond or share the heartbreak. . . . She's an awesome authority to the freshman, a good friend to the senior, a fond memory to the alum."

But moms and apple pie were nowhere to be found on January 13, 1967. One article opened with an invitation: "Planning a trip? For a little variety,

don't see your travel agent. Instead, try LSD for a trip you won't forget." More than a few housemothers must have cringed as "LSD beckons travelers to danger" went on to describe the hallucinogenic effects of lysergic acid diethylamide. "As a word of caution, some people should never take LSD," the article stated. "Such people include those with any heart trouble or liver malfunction, epileptics and people with unstable personalities." Students were apparently eager to learn about drugs, because the *Argus* soon reported a talk by Dr. Keith Ditman, director of the Alcoholism Research Department of the University of California, Los Angeles, on "LSD: Potentials and Problems." Ditman admitted to taking a number of "trips" and described them in detail, while warning that "value systems can be altered, anxiety and depression can set in, and in extreme cases, a person may become a borderline psychotic" (February 24, 1967).

A Gallup Drug Poll, "administered nationally by Dr. George Gallup" and distributed to IWU students, found that 5 percent of the student body had tried either marijuana or LSD, which ranked Wesleyan near the national average—though the author of the article added that "it depends on whom you ask" (January 19, 1968). One student interviewed took exception with the famed pollster's methods, charging, "This poll borders on insanity. This poll casts pot and acid in the same class. There is a vast difference between the two drugs. I am looking forward to the next poll written by someone familiar with drugs."

The article included remarks from dean of students Anne Meierhoffer, who commented on an incident from the previous year where 14 students were suspended. "We had a problem with experimentation," she said. "We were deeply concerned about it. The students were suspended for a week to be at home talking this situation over with their parents. Then the parents returned to campus and we talked over how the students could again fit into the community situation." All students returned, the article added, identifying the drug dealer as "a student at another university."

Other articles reflected an interest in alternate religions and meditation—also popular with the counter-culture. A March 3, 1967 feature described Ouija boards, indicating that at IWU "one can find many people who take part and sincerely believe in such extraordinary occurrences." The students contacted a 40,000-year-old spirit who predicted the Titans would not go to Kansas City that year for the national basketball tournament" (they didn't). And for unbelievers, the article added that a table-lifting display of levitation by three "girls" was witnessed by "this reporter, a photographer, and Chaplain William L. White":

> By verbal command, the table assumed many different inclinations, and by means of code . . . answered such questions as, "How many people are in the room?" The table's spirit did not know who President Kennedy was; so it is evident that he was not omniscient."

Bigger predictions by a parapsychologist made the front page on September 29, 1967, perhaps because he told IWU students that "Richard Nixon will win

the 1968 Presidential election, Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy will serve as 'ambassador of good will' under this administration, Senator Robert Kennedy will never become president . . . however, Senator Ted Kennedy, while in his late fifties, will be President." He also predicted that Red China and Russia would become Christian by the year 2000, and that Los Angeles would sink into the Pacific by 1982. When questioned by *Argus* reporters about his credentials, the parapsychologist said, "I was a business major. There are no degrees in parapsychology."

The only mention of Hugh Hefner's "s-e-x" magazine in the 1950s came from a columnist who attacked not only the "dirty" pictures in *Playboy*, but the writers who "were constantly preoccupied with depravity in some form or other." He added, "To me it is as appalling as if the Holy Bible came out in pocket book form with a cover depicting King David watching Bathsheba bathe" (January 11, 1956).

By 1966, The Gadfly column headline was exclaiming, "Hefner's gospel places reader in Disneyland," while a preview announcing a symposium on "The Playboy Philosophy" placed Hefner in the same category as Socrates, Aristotle, Descartes and Russell (March 6, 1966). What a difference a decade makes.

The Energy (and Features) Crisis

Argus features were as scarce as gas and oil during the 1970s, especially since the paper's masthead did not list a features editor between 1970 and 1977. What few features that did appear continued to focus on faculty, international students, Greek life, short term travel and campus history.

Staff writer Dave Cook's ('71) January 8, 1971 article, "Brandtville rates 'Truck Stop Hall of Fame," told how one piece of campus history—Bob Johnson's Brandtville Restaurant—was located off campus at the intersection of Route 66 and Route 150. Adorned with neon lights and a giant chicken, the all-night restaurant catered to hungry truckers, late night bowlers, post-prom teenagers, state troopers and "hippie-weirdo college freaks." As Cook put it, "The college gourmet, in his eternal search for the perfect hamburger, can find at Brandtville an excellent reason for continuing his search." While Brandtville was one of Bloomington's few all-night restaurants (its busiest hours were between midnight and 3 a.m.), it still attracted primarily male patrons, "partially because most women would rather not go there unescorted, and partially because women's stomachs may not be quite as strong."

One woman who probably was too cultured for regular late-night trips to Brandtville was Wesleyan's own queen of the 1973 College Football All-Star game. It's clear from Dave Watkins' ('75) description of All-Star queen Pam Metcalf Smith ('74) that she was of higher caliber than the truck-stop variety, though her friends played just as rough:

> If you happen to pass on campus a very cute five-foot, three-inch brunette with unforgettable deep brown eyes and a contagiously confident air about her—treat her with your utmost respect or last year's College All-Americans Bert Jones and Otis Armstrong will break your face. (September 14, 1973)

The *Playboy*-style interview outlined Metcalf Smith's road to royalty, from the moment she filled out the application to the moment she was selected over 10 finalists from colleges in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Iowa. The Chicago Jaycees, sponsors of the contest, shuttled her around to a number of personal appearances with actor Don Knotts, coach John McKay and WGN-Radio and TV personalities Wally Phillips and Ray Rayner.

Other features dealt with campus concerns. Staff writer Debbie Burt Frazier's ('75) January 25, 1974 article, "Students lives change little; lack of energy affects few," reported that students "were not doing much of anything" to curb President Richard Nixon's proclaimed energy crisis. One student said she refused to do anything until Nixon, himself, did: "As long as he can fly back and forth to one of his six homes every weekend with just him and Pat aboard, I figure I can burn all the lights in my room too!" Another student responded that he was conserving energy by reducing his speed to 50 miles per hour in a 25-mile zone. A sidebar on the university's energy conservation efforts revealed that the "shortage wouldn't bring shivers," since the physical plant had its own fuel reserves. Despite President Robert Eckley's orders to lower university thermostats to 68 degrees, an *Argus* investigation revealed that most residence halls remained five to 10 degrees above the limit.

Features editor Letita Keller's ('79) two-part series on "Rape: Guide to Myths and Realities" (December 2, 1977) reported that "Bloomington-Normal has proportionately the same number of rapes as Chicago. And even though IWU security has had no reports over the past couple of years, rape does happen at Illinois Wesleyan University." The article went on to explain the motives behind rape, as well as rape prevention procedures.

Up Close and Personal: The Age of Information

By 1980, features bounced back to prominence in *The Argus*, largely thanks to national stories obtained through College Press Service (CPS) and United Press International (UPI) on such topics as student loans, health, the job market, drugs, college suicides, sexual harassment and rape awareness. Locally, list and trend stories were popular, with *Argus* writers offering their own personal slants on conscientious objection, stress reduction, diet tips, dorm door graffiti, a "Titan Purity Test" (March 2, 1990) and the somewhat anarchic "Should I stay or Should I go: The 'How-To' in breaking those [dormitory] visitation hours" (February 16, 1990).

In 1983, the features pages suddenly overflowed with movie and music reviews, beginning with student reactions to "Reds," a journalistic account of the Bolshevik Revolution, Henry Fonda's "On Golden Pond" and U2's release of "The Unforgettable Fire." Writers also previewed a large number of plays, performances and exhibitions in the drama, music and art schools, with features editor David Barrett devoting an entire center spread to art exhibitions at ISU and IWU (January 25, 1991), and writer Tim Vasil ('89) creating a series of "camp" record reviews that poked fun of the genre in the process. His February 10, 1989

review of junior-high heart-throb Tiffany was signed "by Tim Vasil and his little sister, Buffy" [who popped gum and critiqued the record in pre-teenybopper slang], while in other reviews Vasil confessed that rock-star "Madonna makes me wanna do push-ups" and explained how his "old buddy" Barry Gibb was depressed by a new Fine Young Cannibals album (made, he argued, by Bee-Gees wannabes). Glibness went beyond Gibbness during the late 1980s, with other playful offerings including a tongue-in-cheek horoscope column offering such entries as, "CANCER: You will become sleepy. You will become very, very sleepy," or "CAPRICORN: Cloudy but warmer with a chance of precipitation" (April 14, 1989).

But a lot of serious information filled the pages of *The Argus* as well. If the range of articles is any indication, students from the 1980s and 1990s were as fascinated by information as the nation that had fallen in love with the Trivial Pursuit question-and-answer board game. Features appeared on such varied topics as the 20th anniversary of *Sesame Street*, a "Real-life Indiana Jones" explorer (October 11, 1991), and behind-the-scenes looks at Greek peer counseling and the IWU Urban Studies Program in Chicago. One article even featured the naked mole rat, which writer Jorie Moran ('91), now a zookeeper at Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, called "the animal rage of the '90s" (December 7, 1990).

Profiles in these decades often focused on student and faculty accomplishments and experiences, especially as they expanded beyond the world of Illinois Wesleyan. One feature profiled student Lisa Thomas ('90), who served an internship at *Late Night with David Letterman*, and had a long list of names to drop. Another focused on full-time student and part-time movie actor Jeff Jarot ('93), who appeared as an extra in *Home Alone*; still another featured freshman Tracy Fritchley ('92), whose stitchery sent her to the National 4-H Congress as the Illinois representative. Drama professor John Ficca was spotlighted for his play, *Friday in America*, which debuted on campus (March 1, 1991), while Darlene Ostrowski won first place in feature writing from the Illinois College Press Association for a story she did on Professor George Kieh Jr., "Grueling Prison Didn't Break Kieh's Spirit" (January 25, 1991). Kieh, a Liberian exile who became the first director of the International Studies Program at IWU, told *The Argus* about his time "in solitary confinement, in a filthy cell barely large enough to turn around in." Rain and mosquitoes poured in through an open window, "forcing the prisoners to slosh through ankle-deep water." Kieh, an expert on his native Liberia, was invited by former President Jimmy Carter to a conference on international affairs.

Folklore also found its way into the newspaper, with a number of Halloween articles reporting all of Wesleyan's hallowed halls and haunted houses. One ghost story concerning the Phi Mu Alpha fraternity house claimed that Dr. Manmen, an 1890s dentist, allegedly killed his daughter (accidentally) while performing an abortion on her. He supposedly left her in the office for a week, and then dismembered her and buried her remains in the basement. However, some

careful digging by Chris McHugh ('82) and Rich Sands ('83) in the October 30, 1981 *Argus* revealed that the ghost story had become skewed over time:

> As for the Phi Mu House, Manmen was a respectable Bloomington doctor (not a dentist) and did no such thing to anyone, let alone his daughter. He built the house in 1891 and lived there until his death in 1937 and we think it's time we stopped dragging his good name through the mud.

Joe Relaford and Gail Gaboda's ('88) October 30, 1987 feature, "Wealth of wraiths inhabit Wesleyan," told how Kemp Hall, which was built by a young doctor around the turn of the century, contained the ghost of the doctor's wife, Maria DeMange. Mrs. DeMange died suddenly after a year of living in the house, and "several times since, people have seen the wife's image in the hall. Other DeManges are also rumored to haunt the International House." The article also reported that a ghost named "Frances" haunted Adams Hall (the Acacia house).

In recent years, ghosts have taken quite a liking to Wesleyan, according to Betsy Phillips ('97), whose October 29, 1993 feature, "Halloween and Haunted Halls," reported ghost sightings in McPherson Theater, the Kappa Kappa Gamma House, the Art Building, Buck Library, Presser Hall, the Sigma Kappa House, Blackstock Hall, Pfieffer Hall and Ferguson Hall. In Ferguson, for example, one student saw a book fly off her desk and, "on the other side of her, she saw what she thought was an indentation of someone sitting next to her."

Features editors in these decades used the center spread to provide campus, state, and national election information, as well as in-depth reports on African-Americans at IWU, international studies and Wesleyan's School of Fine Arts. Center spreads also reached into the community with articles like "Crisis in the heartland" (April 25, 1986), which described Central Illinois farmers' fights to keep their farms operating despite huge debts "accumulated during the 1970s when inflation was high." The center spread featured articles on the farm crisis itself, the financial woes of IWU students from farm families, declining membership in the Future Farmers of America and a poignant account of a local farmer's liquidation auction. "They hauled away all my machinery and the rest of my assets. My wife works, so we kept food on the table," the farmer told staff writer Dave Ruggles ('88).

The 1990s continued to provide a diverse range of entertainment reviews, music, art and drama previews, and features. Lorian Hemingway, the granddaughter of Nobel Prize-winning author Ernest Hemingway, revealed to features editor Brian Hiatt that it "annoyed her terrifically" to carry the Hemingway name. Hemingway said that her own "sensuous, more flavorful" novel, *Walking into the River* directly contrasted her grandfather's "simple, direct style of writing" (November 6, 1992).

If there has been any trend in the 1990s, it has been the emergence of introspective or highly personal features. One such story, "Inflated chests not big with female collegians" (December 8, 1989) explored the option of breast reduction for "well-endowed" women. "Most people do not realize that large breasts

are uncomfortable and that even running down the stairs can be painful," staff writer Kristina Geister ('90) wrote. Likewise, a March 19, 1993 feature on eating disorders began,

> She arrived home around 11 p.m. Shortly after, her body was bent and her head was in the toilet. She tried desperately to throw up the food she had eaten while out with her friends. It didn't work. She decided to take a laxative and go to bed. As she lay staring at the ceiling, her mind was clouded with thoughts of death, which appeared over and over again until she struggled for the phone to call a friend. . . . The story may sound bizarre to some of you, but . . . the girl mentioned above is me. I have dealt with this nightmare, bulimia, for about three years.

The rest of the feature not only outlined staff writer Kara Cheeseman's ('95) battle with bulimia and road to recovery, but it also offered advice from medical experts on eating disorder symptoms and ways to get help. "Eating disorders are much like alcoholism—they stay in with people throughout their lives," Cheeseman wrote. "In my experience, the past year and a half I have spent fighting this disorder has been the most difficult time of my life. No matter how hard it was, I would never go back."

CHAPTER 8

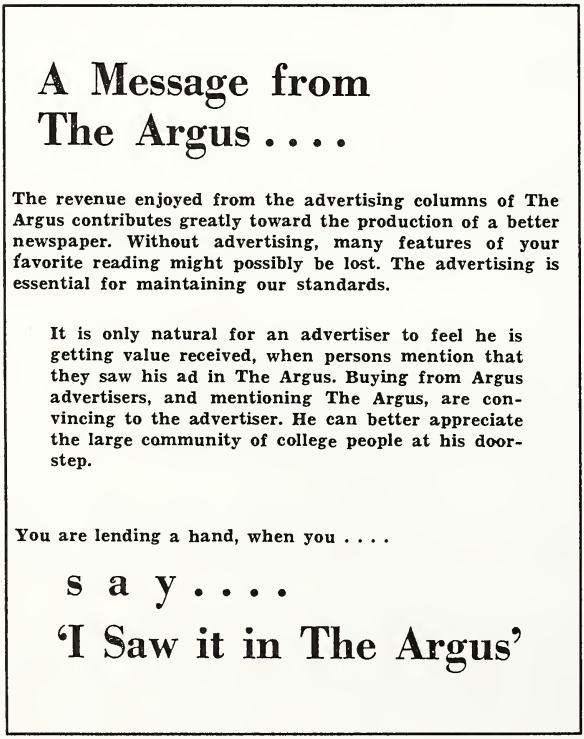
Argus Advertising—A Sign of the Times

Advertisements have helped finance almost every *Argus*, with the exception of the four-page April 25, 1945 issue featuring the "Dumbarton Oaks [United Nations Proposal] Documents"—and the occasional early-semester issue which went to press before the ad staff could get organized (as on August 6, 1952).

In its first few decades without university funding, *The Argus* was supported mainly through advertising, supplemented by $1 annual subscriptions from Wesleyan's students. A century later, advertisements still cover part of the operating costs, fund new computer equipment and treat the staff to weekly production-night pizzas and dinner in Chicago at the annual Illinois College Press Association convention.

For the 1993-94 school year, remaining operating costs are covered by money allocated by Student Senate based on the previous year's *Argus* budget. In 1992-93, advertising revenue accounted for approximately $12,000 of the paper's $35,000 budget. Desktop publishing will allow the newspaper to petition for less money from Senate's Financial Advisory Board (FAB) in future years.

There never has been a clear formula or permanent advertising policy for *The Argus*, nor has there been any by-law or constitutional Senate provision detailing what percent of *The Argus* budget must come from advertising. Student Council was founded in 1915 and

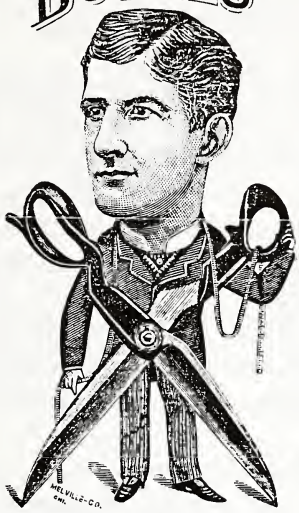


1943

1894

Latest Novelties in Woolens for Men's Wear.
—LOW PRICES—

BOLLES



TAILOR

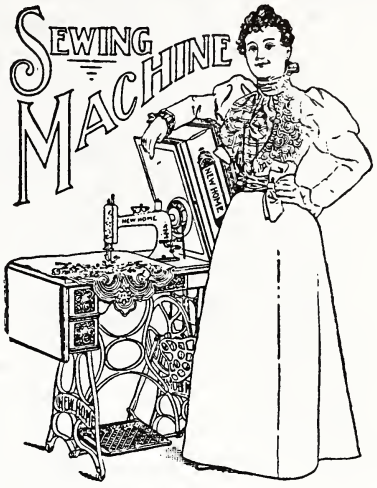
All Work Made and Trimmed in First-Class Style.

304 N. Center Street, BLOOMINGTON

1894

TRY THE **NEW HOME**

SEWING MACHINE



WRITE FOR CIRCULARS showing the different styles of Sewing Machines we manufacture and their prices before you purchase any other.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.
ORANGE, MASS.

28 Union Square, N. Y. Chicago, Ill. St. Louis, Mo.
Dallas, Tex. San Francisco, Cal. Atlanta, Ga.

FOR SALE BY

1909

Copyright 1908 by Hart Schaffner & Marx

THIS season the styles and patterns of fabrics, in men's clothe- are unusually striking; more bright colors, more smart patterns and weaves; a stock of men's clothes like ours looks almost giddy.

—we'll show you the new fine goods for winter from Hart, Schaffner & Marx, made in their perfect way, of all-wool fabrics, in the richest and most attractive patterns; not too lively, nor too quiet; just right.

—this store is the home of Hart, Schaffner & Marx Clothes, Last Long Sox, Stetson Hats, Manhattan Shirts, Walkover, Florsheim Shoes

—we carry a complete line of Pennants.

TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT to all STUDENTS, MINISTERS and PROFESSORS : :

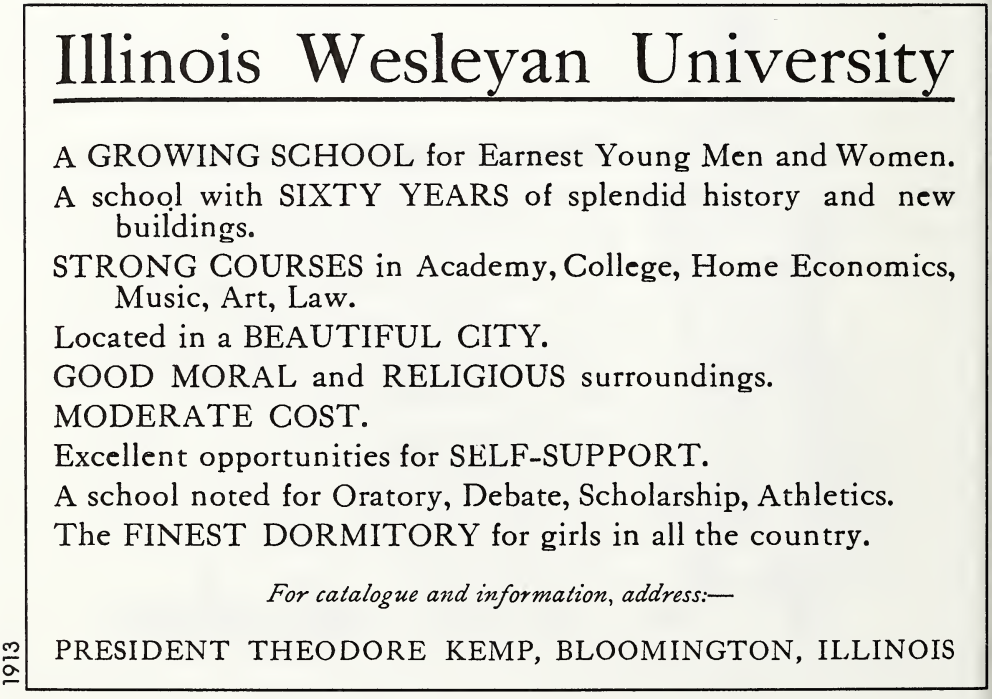
Grieshaim's
THE BIG STORE

replaced in 1933 by Student Union, which gave itself constitutional power over campus media. A student referendum in spring 1957 gave the Union a new constitution and a new name, and in 1959-60, Student Senate began administering the funds to finance student programs. Prior to that, according to an *Argus* editorial which apologized for a semester of four-page issues, the university provided two-thirds of the total cost of *The Argus.* Advertising had to make up the difference (October 3, 1951).

In lieu of a formal advertising policy, editors and business managers have traditionally built their own revenue goals into the budget. Often times, the gap between an editor's idea of how many ads could or should go into every issue differed sharply from the business manager's. One editor from the 1960s recalled that she mixed with her business manager about as well as oil and water. "We rarely got along," she said. "He ran his section separately from the rest of the staff and always challenged me. I usually won."

Other editors found the opposite to be true. Editor Ruth Nordin Zervas considered business manager Bob Evans ('62) to be the most important person on her 1961-62 staff because "he was a real good hustler for advertising. He was so good I never had to worry about it."

Ads in the first three decades were ruled or boxed in sections to take up page after page, yearbook style. They hawked everything from Hoagland's Oil of Gladness Mop to Kirkpatrick's Whole Room of Furniture, only $11.85, with many advertisers offering special rates to students. The January 11, 1911 *Argus* featured this simple ad: "The Illinois Hotel is where the Wesleyan Banquets are



1913

LIVINGSTON BUILDING BARBER SHOP
O. J. VALENTINE

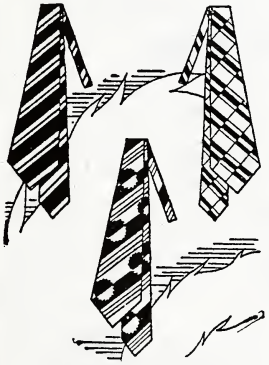
1927

These
Young Men
Gladly
Assist You:
Richard Walters
Rudy Seiger
Charles O'Malley
Forrest Green
Harry Pisell
Tom Lancaster

All Gifts
Will
be Packed
in
Holiday Boxes
and
Mailed or
Delivered
as
Desired

The Boy Friend Problem

Mufflers $2 to $5
Silk Robes $10 to $25
Set with Slippers to Match
$18.50



NECKWEAR
Fine Knits from Vienna at $2—gayly patterned silks and broad vivid stripes, $1 to $2.50—ours is the largest showing in town.

SOMETHING HE WILL APPRECIATE
—is a fine white English Broadcloth with a smart collar attached —every man likes them
$2.50 to $5.00

NEW PAJAMAS
Silks in distinctive colors----$6.00
Pongees in Black Trims----$3.50
Fancy Broadcloths--$2.00 to $5.00

Deer-hide Gloves $4.50
A Variety of Gifts Packed
in Sets, 25c to $1.50

HOSE
Full fashioned pattern silks at $1—fine wool and silk and wool at $1 and $1.50—a large variety of fancy hose at 50c.

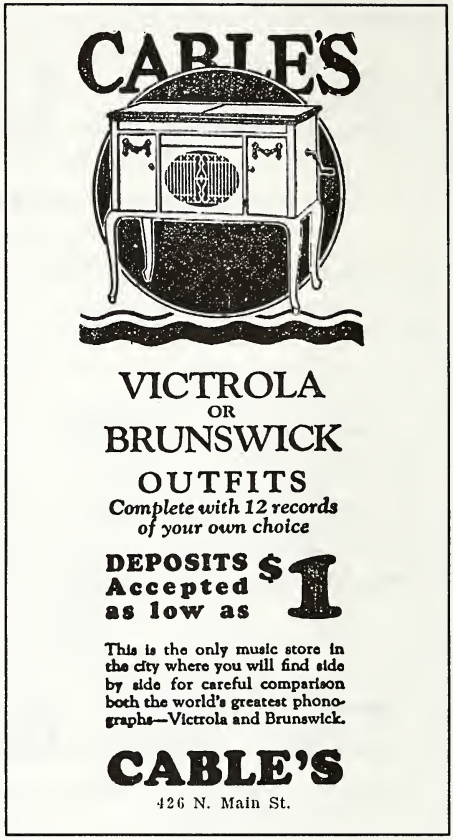
COSTELLO & O'MALLEY
317 NORTH MAIN STREET

Held," and an ad for Zweng Sporting Goods Co. advertised "College and Athletic Goods," but pictured a roadster and motorcycle. Students needed to travel to get their books—all the way to West Side Square where W.B. Read & Co. offered "Wesleyan Textbooks, only complete stock in city." Read's also was the "Official Outfitter for All Wesleyan Athletics."

In the 1920s, ads covered a wide range of services and products. Public utilities like the Illinois Power & Light Service and Illinois Central [Rail] System frequently placed large ads, as did the national firm General Electric. Locally, the business card ads from tailors, linoleum dealers and other tradesmen gave way to larger ads that seemed better tailored to student needs.

W.B. Read & Co. advertised "Regulation I.W.U. Gymnasium Suits for Men and Women" (November 17, 1923), and Bloomington's Dewenter & Co. featured an ad with University of Illinois halfback Jud Timm wearing "the new campus crusher" felt hat, priced at $1.50. But Charles O'Malley had them all beat. "The Store for Young Men" on 317 N. Main offered "A new three-button [suit] designed exclusively for our Wesleyan trade by Lindenthal"—named "The Argus" (September 20, 1927). Yellow Cab Co. operated in Bloomington and advertised special student rates: "one trunk, 35 cents; each additional, 25 cents; extra man, 25 cents" (February 18, 1923). And the Irvin Theater advertised special movie nights for Illinois Wesleyan students.

But the best buys in town could be found at the eateries near courthouse square. The Boston Cafe, three doors west of the Illinois Hotel, offered 39-cent



1926

1930

THE STORE FOR YOUNG MEN

***The* ARGUS**

A new three-button model designed exclusively for our Wesleyan trade by Lindenthal.

Trousers have double knees to prevent bagging, and double seat. A great selection from thirty-five to fifty dollars.

Other lines from twenty-five to fifty. Get the habit of watching our windows for new things.

WHITE BROADCLOTH SHIRTS

A Special offering of our regular $2.50 English Broadcloth

$1.85

FANCY HOSE

A great variety of colors and designs

50c

FALL HATS

Smart "dinky" shapes and new colors

$5

Here is where the Snappy NECKWEAR Comes from

$1.00

$1.50

$2.00

1927

CHARLES O'MALLEY

lunches and dinners, while the Arlington Cafeteria at the Arlington Hotel, one block west of the courthouse, offered students "All you can eat for 39 cents" (November 27, 1923). For insomniacs (or pajama paraders), Green Mill Cafe on 212 W. Washington St. was open day and night and sold cigars and cigarettes.

When the Depression struck in the 1930s, ads dwindled. The Castle and Irvin Theaters continued to advertise, as well as the utilities and a number of local merchants grouped into generic "box" ads. Mac's Barber shop—"Campus choice, campus location at 1306 N. Main St., basement—offered haircuts for 25 cents, and Parker Pens exhorted students to "Back your brains with the All-Star Pen." Parker also sold class rings, while Greyhound advertised, "Save your wampum, pilgrims . . . on your trip home for Thanksgiving [1936]." But the ad

campaign that must have interested Illinois Wesleyan students the most was a series "spotlighting" IWU coeds. A. Livingston & Sons featured a different coed each week—and a different shoe. From saddle oxfords to peek-a-boo toes, the weekly advertisement ran always in the same spot. One even spotlighted associate *Argus* editor Charlotte Fitzhenry Robling wearing "sweetheart sandles." The 1930s also saw the first ad insert, a handbill from the Castle Theater announcing its daily 20-cent double-features: "never before in the Theatrical History of Bloomington has such a Bargain in Deluxe Entertainment been offered on a daily program."

In the 1940s, war took up so much space that the ads dwindled. But Coca-Cola made a splash in *The Argus* with two series of advertisements—one on different locations where Coke was "the global high-sign," and the other on "big moments" in people's lives. Record stores also advertised a great deal, with Music Mart Records running a one-column list of offerings down the entire page and E. W. Gilbert catering to a poorer crowd. The downtown record shop offered a "big selection" of used records for 15 cents each. Another frequent advertiser was Hall's Tog [Clothing] Shop, featuring the latest in McGregor sportswear.

By the 1950s, *The Argus* had four movie theaters advertising in its pages. Joining the Castle and Irvin were the Esquire Theater and the Drive-In. Wesleyan must have also witnessed an auto explosion, because ads for service stations began to appear in *The Argus*, alongside Sorg's Jeweler's sterling silverware ("We have your pattern") and W.B. Read & Co.'s "Football Cush-n-Robes" from $9.95-$19.95 (October 8, 1952). The Lucca Grill began advertising, as did flower shops promoting corsages. As if to insinuate that *Argus* readers could appreciate the difference, Ken Way Photographers specialized in "Good photographs."

A decade later, Coke had phased out of *Argus* advertising, replaced by pizza joints (Shakey's, Tobin's, Pizza Hut and Gino's Tower of Pizza) and fast-food chains (McDonald's, John Bull Roast Beef Sandwiches and Burger Chef). Ads also appeared for Bob Johnson's Brandtville Restaurant, Fred's Spudnuts, penny

loafers, soft pretzels, VW "beetles," Yamaha motorcycles, Jack Lewis jewelers and auto insurance. The 1960s saw the emergence of full-page ads—quite a few of them, including a paid advertisement for the Nixon-Agnew campaign and a smaller enticement to "Join College Republicans." *Argus* readers still had their choice of four cinemas: they could see "High Wild and Free" at the Drive-In, "McLintock!" at the Castle, "Gidget Goes to Rome" at the Irvin, or "Lord of the Flies" at the Normal Theater.

Students in the 1970s saw advertisements for stereo "sound" shops and bars like Someplace Else, The Cave, or Josies, where they could go for $1 happy hour

U. S. Army Announcement

To College Women in their Senior Year

WAAC learning line testing

WAAC Draftsman

WAAC Laboratory Technician

WAAC PAY SCALE

Officers	Equiv. Rank	Base Monthly Pay
Director	Colonel	$333.33
Asst. Director	Lt. Colonel	291.67
Field Director	Major	250.00
1st Officer	Captain	200.00
2nd Officer	1st Lieutenant	166.67
3rd Officer	2nd Lieutenant	150.00
Enrolled Members		
Chief Leader	Master Sergeant	$138.00
1st Leader	First Sergeant	138.00
Tech. Leader	Tech. Sergeant	114.00
Staff Leader	Staff Sergeant	96.00
Technician, 3rd Grade	Technician, 3rd Grade	96.00
Leader	Sergeant	78.00
Technician, 4th Grade	Technician, 4th Grade	78.00
Jr. Leader	Corporal	66.00
Technician, 5th Grade	Technician, 5th Grade	66.00
Auxiliary, 1st Class	Private, 1st Class	54.00
Auxiliary	Private	50.00

* *To the above are added certain allowances for quarters and subsistence where authorized.*

YOUR Army has scores of jobs in the WAAC for alert college women . . . jobs vital to the war . . . jobs that will train you for interesting new careers in the post-war world. And here is good news indeed — you may enroll *now* in the fast-growing WAAC and be placed on inactive duty until the school year ends. Then you will be subject to call for duty with this splendid women's corps and be launched upon an adventure such as no previous generation has known.

New horizons . . . new places and people . . . interesting, practical experience with good pay . . . and, above all, a real opportunity to help your country by doing essential military work for the U. S. Army that frees a soldier for combat duty. These are among many reasons why thousands of American women are responding to the Army's need.

You will receive valuable training which may fit you for many of the new careers which are opening to women, and full Army pay while doing so. And by joining now you will have excellent chances for quick advancement for, as the WAAC expands, many more officers are needed. Every member—regardless of race, color or creed—has equal opportunity and is encouraged to compete for selection to Officer Candidate School. If qualified, you may obtain a commission in 12 weeks after beginning basic training.

Go to your WAAC Faculty Adviser for further information on the list of openings, pay, and promotions. Or inquire at any U. S. Army Recruiting and Induction Station.

U. S. ARMY — KEEP 'EM FLYING

RECRUITING AND INDUCTION SERVICE

WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS

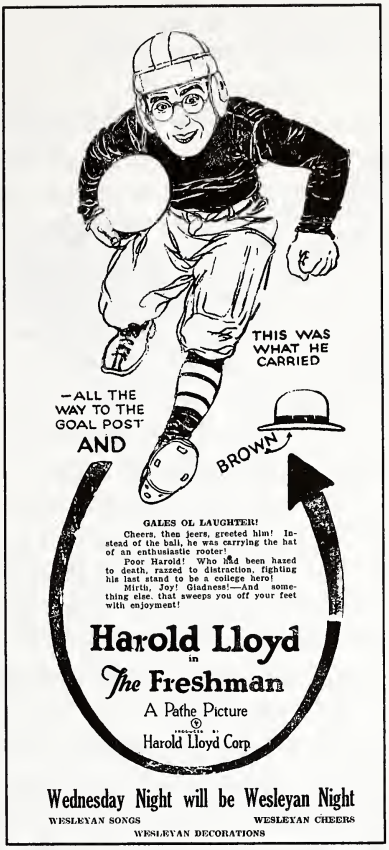
1943

pitchers of beer. Head shops (offering Zig-Zag papers, black light posters, bong pipes) also appeared, with one of them, Man-Ding-Go's, claiming to be "The Store for Body and Soul." Student Union Committee Movies debuted, advertising 50 cent movies in the Memorial Center, and concerts at nearby colleges found their way into *The Argus* pages. Jefferson Airplane played at the University of Illinois, and R.E.O. Speedwagon played at the Red Lion. Other ads offered students macramé belt kits, bell bottoms and guitars.

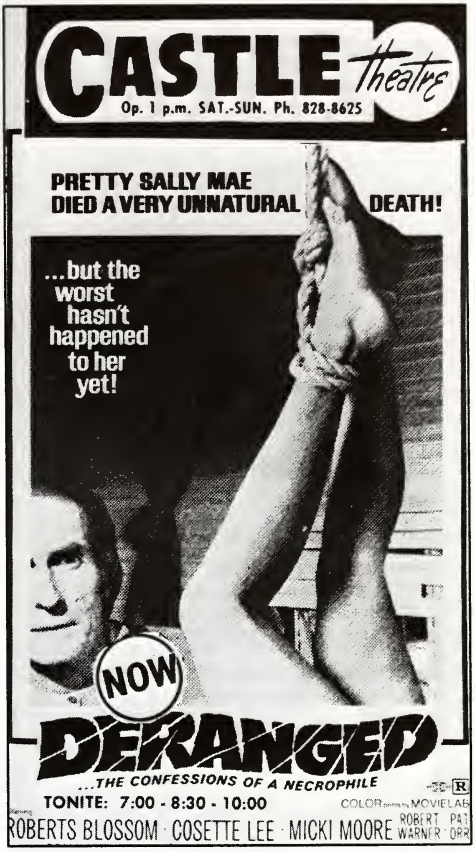
By the 1980s, local cinemas had stopped advertising in *The Argus*, though movie studios still placed large ads to inform students of "coming attractions." The May 1, 1987 *Argus* previewed "Full Metal Jacket," for example. Compared to other decades, however, the 1980s and early 1990s had less ads and less variety. Pizza places were still popular, and Chicago Dough Company, Papa John's, and Garcia's became regular advertisers. For a change of diet, students were encouraged to patronize Avanti's Italian Restaurant. Among noticeable changes, ads for campus organizations increased—especially fraternities and sororities—and national ads appeared for spring break packages, GTE Academic All-Americans, the *Chicago Tribune*, State Farm Insurance and Apple-Macintosh Computers.

Out of all the decades, perhaps the most memorable (if not creative) use

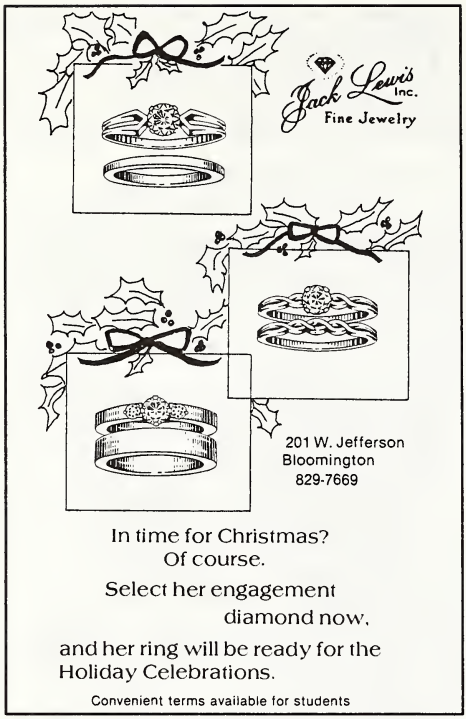
1925



1974



1973



1980

of advertisements occurred shortly after the basketball team wrapped up the NCAA Division III Regional Championship with a victory over Millikin. *The Argus* had just been informed that its budget would be cut by Student Senate, and the editors decided to get Senate's goat. On the March 4, 1988 sports page, editor J. Arlen Bowyer ran advertisements instead of cage coverage, along with this notice:

> The **Argus** regrets having to substitute advertisements in place of sports coverage, but due to recent unexpected budgetary cutbacks made by the **Financial Advisory Board** of Student Senate, the **Argus** was forced to cut back and favor revenue-raising advertisements over printed copy.

Twice before, in its 100-year history, *Argus* advertising has sparked controversy. In 1940, the staff wanted to include tobacco ads because they thought it would generate revenue for extra photographs and pages. However, the administration nixed the idea. In a February 6, 1940 editorial, *The Argus*, under the editorship of Mary Fran Payne and the business management of Al Hartman ('40), Jim Robinson ('41) and Lyle Veitch ('40), listed their rationale for wanting to run cigarette ads:

> With the money brought in by such national advertising, *The Argus* could become a much better paper. We could . . . [use the extra revenue] in any number of ways. . . . In arguing that *The Argus* carry such advertising, we are not advocating or even condoning smoking on the part of students.

Despite *The Argus*' plea, tobacco advertising never appeared in the newspaper. The closest it came was printing 1947 and 1949 ads for Hoppe's Cigar Store. Twenty years later the cigarette advertising issue surfaced again, and once again the staff was told it couldn't run the ads. That's when an *Argus* editorial attacked the administration for having a double standard. According to editor Ruth Nordin Zervas:

> In 1962 cigarette reps used to leave free samples around campus, and there was a cigarette machine in the Dug Out. *The Argus* was operating "in the red," and we felt that [since the administration would not permit cigarette ads in the paper] we should take a stand. Here they were trying to be moral, but they would still allow the reps and the machine.

Nordin Zervas' March 23 editorial, "Cigarette Advertising Would Solve

Sensational! "Custombilt" Imported

BRIAR STUBS $2.50

These PIPES Are NOT Seconds, But All FIRST GRADE Pocket Size Pipes, With the Full-Sized Smoke! A Rare Find at Only $2.50!

HOPPE'S CIGAR STORE

THE PIPE CENTER OF ILLINOIS Southwest Corner Square

1949

Argus Financial Problems," offered the administration and Student Senate an ultimatum: either allow cigarette advertising or raise the student activity fee. The editorial claimed that the allowance of tobacco machines in the Memorial Student Center was "an inconsistency in [administrative] policy" and that "it is highly unlikely that Student Senate can afford to increase *The Argus* budget very much without raising the activity fee." Responses to the editorial filled the next three editions. The majority of readers supported *The Argus'* position, calling tobacco advertising "a necessary evil." Readers, most of whom wished to remain anonymous, urged the university to stay consistent in its policies and either remove the cigarette machines from campus or allow tobacco ads in the newspaper. The strongest opposition to *The Argus'* viewpoint came from John A. Cummens ('64), who was "shocked and angry that our student body would usurp the rules and duty of the Methodist Church in the area of abstinence from tobacco" (April 6, 1962). Like Cummens, those who opposed cigarette advertisements in the school paper advised those who felt the urge to violate the rules of the Methodist Church [by smoking] to leave Wesleyan.

The uproar finally forced an administrative response. Although *The Argus* wasn't given the go-ahead on cigarette advertising, Nordin Zervas said that they did manage "to create enough flak toward the administration that they took the machine out of the Dug Out and, as a result, the reps stopped coming to campus."

THE LIBRARY

KEEP THE FAITH, BABY with

THE SURVIVING SOULS

WED., FRI., SAT., SUN.

9:00 - 12:30

Study Hour Friday — 4:30 - 6:30

— All drinks ½ price —

CORNER OF CENTER AND MONROE

1968

Another conflict over advertising involved alcohol. It began in 1968 when *The Argus* ran ads for establishments that served alcoholic beverages. After receiving an "unknown number of complaints," dean of students Anne Meierhofer raised concerns with the Publications Committee, as

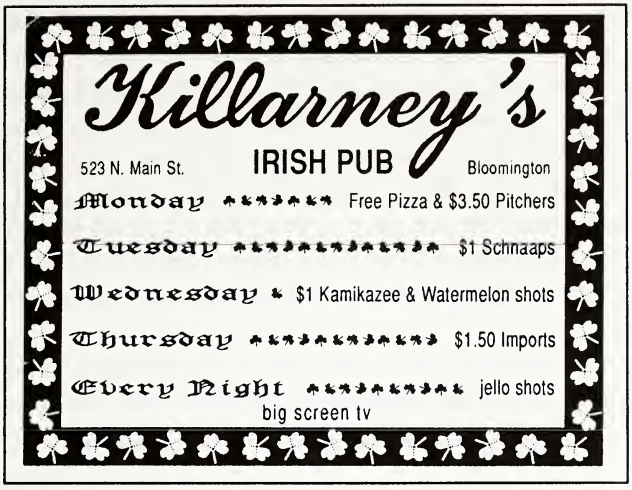
reported in "Parent commission backs Argus alcohol ad policy" (November 22, 1968). The concern was specifically brought about by a plain boxed ad for The Library, a local coffee-house type bar. The mention of "drinks" in small print at the bottom of the ad caused such a panic among parents and administrators that a special committee was formed to investigate *The Argus*' ad policy. After studying the issue, the Campus Life Committee, predominantly made up of IWU parents, supported the university's anti-alcohol stance. However, they suggested a new policy (which was adopted and enforced until 1973) whereby alcoholic beverages were only to appear in advertisements as side-notes, not as the main focus.

The change in the alcohol advertisement policy gave the newspaper room to expand. In 1973, after the drinking age was lowered from 21 to 19 in Illinois, *The Argus* published ads for nationally known brands of beer, according to 1972-74 editor David Gathman. "Up until I became the editor, the newspaper did not run alcohol ads. But we were a liberal bunch and the staff pressured me to run them," he said. The 1972-73 staff reasoned that alcohol ads could be included because of the change in the legal drinking age. Once again, the administration's response to the issue was perceived as inconsistent. Despite allowing beer in students' private rooms, the administration frowned on the presence of beer ads in the newspaper. According to Gathman, "[President] Eckley never really said 'You can't do this,' because he recognized that *The Argus* was a student paper. But he was not thrilled [with alcohol advertising]. He said that the Church and the Board of Trustees might disagree with our policy."

But national alcohol ads brought in more money than local ads, and *The Argus* wanted the business. A February 1973 letter from a New York advertising agency offered $1000 worth of national beer advertising to *The Argus*. While Gathman wanted to comply with Campus Life's suggested policy of not running ads where alcohol was the main focus, the first ad for carry-out liquor appeared in the March 15, 1974 edition. Gathman, who rarely proofed advertisements, discovered the ad the next morning when the paper was released to the public. "Deep down, I was saddened," he remembered. "But I knew the time had come to accept this change. Liquor ads were now 'in.'"

Full-page national beer and wine ads appeared by the end of the 1970s but were discontinued when the drinking age returned to 21 in 1980. Since 1991, however, alcoholic beverages have been able to sneak back into the newspaper through ads for local bars and pubs. Ross Minion ('94), business manager for the 1993-94 *Argus*, said he encountered "no opposition from the administration" for printing any of the bar ads.

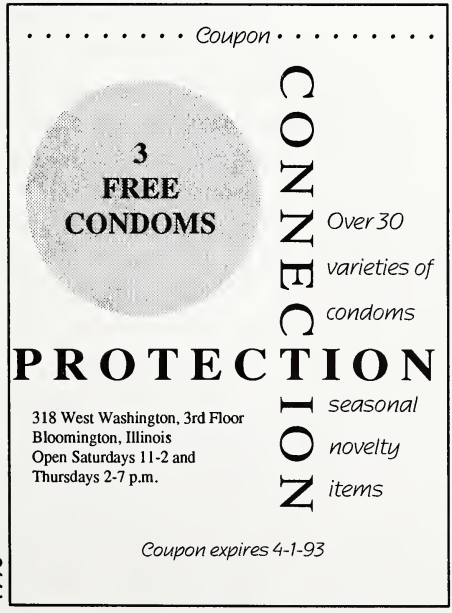
Still, staffs in the 1990s have recognized that newspapers are as accountable for the ads they choose to run as they are for any editorial content. Ad managers, with the approval of the editor, have had to decide whether to run personal classifieds and advertisements dealing with abortion clinics, surrogate motherhood, adoption, nude modeling, term paper mills and drug paraphernalia. Minion said he has rejected ads he found questionable. "I won't run anything that will harm or misinform students," he said.



1993

Several "scam" ads have been sent to *The Argus* and, of course, have been refused. Such ads promoted study aids and research assistance for "nominal fees." , the newspaper learned that once students sent money to the company, they never heard from the advertisers. The 1993-94 business staff researches all ads sent into the office, though with the majority of ads coming from local establishments, problems are rare.

While they may have been seen as a budgetary mainstay, advertisements also reveal a bit of history. Rising prices serve as a good indicator of changing times, but the attraction of "cheaper" products tells a story about college students that fits every stereotype. As early as 1894, an ad for Bolles Tailor touted "low prices," while a September 1926 edition advertised men's suits for a mere $40. Between 1923 and 1930 the advertised average dress prices decreased, perhaps signifying that students were less inclined to spend money on "unnecessary" items during the Depression years. Students on the Wesleyan campus no longer can remember when haircuts were 65 cents from the Illini Barber Shop (October 13, 1948) or when Deweneter's offered "slacks" for $5.95 (October 19, 1962).



1993

Ads also tied Illinois Wesleyan to the larger world. In 1942, ads urged Wesleyan women to not only stay on the home front, but to enlist and join the fight as well. And during the Cold War, a 1961 ad for Radio Free Europe asked students to donate "Truth dollars" to save 70 million people from the "avalanche of oppression behind the Iron Curtain." "Freedom is not free! Your dollars are needed to keep Radio Free Europe on the air!" the ad proclaimed.

Advertisements also link students to other college students across regions—even across decades. Ads for an all-night 1920s coffee shop or for 1970s and 1980s

products like Vivarin caffeine pills indicate that Wesleyan study habits and the insomniac life of college students hasn't changed much over the years. Likewise, *Argus* ads indicate that weekends and diversions have always been important. Ads for movies have appeared since the 1920s. With the exception of a few movie advertisements scattered throughout 1980s editions, consistent movie ads left *The Argus* during the late 1970s, though editors no longer recall the reason. One can only speculate that the growing number of multi-screen movie complexes no longer needed to advertise in a newspaper with a circulation of only 1,700, when a larger market like the *Vidette* (circulation approximately 25,000) was down the street.

Finally, advertisers from the 1890s would be amazed in the changes in ad production. Virtually all of the ads in the 1990s *Argus* are submitted "camera-ready" or staff-generated on computers.

CHAPTER 9

Sports

"Tolly, Balolly, Baloo, Early Sports at IWU!"

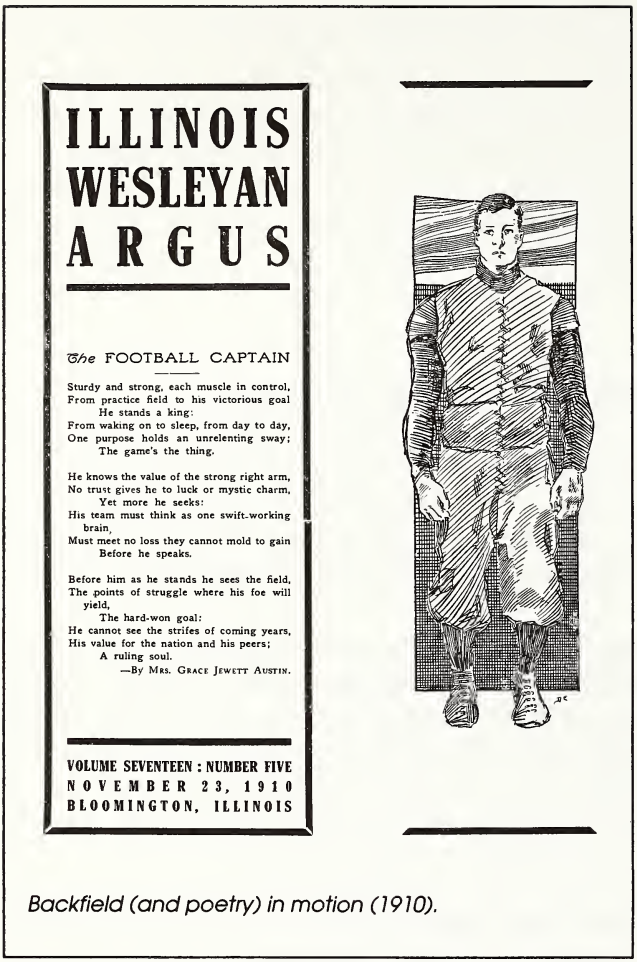
Former Illinois Wesleyan athletic director Jack Horenberger ('36) once called intercollegiate athletics from 1890 to the early 1900s "disorganized disorganization," and a look at the first two decades of *Argus* sports coverage confirms that. With few coaches, little financial support and no National Collegiate Athletic Association (until 1906), college athletics existed with little or no ethical guidelines.

And with no sports editor, the first event covered by *The Argus* in the October 29, 1894 issue—the Illinois Inter-Collegiate Contest at Illinois College in Jacksonville—focused not on play-by-play as 1994 writers do, but on the crowds and cheers. The Olympic-style contest pitted Wesleyan, the University of Illinois, Knox, Monmouth, Blackburn and Illinois College against each other in foot-ball, base-ball (both were hyphenated in the old days), tennis, track, bicycle racing and, most popular of all, oratory. In fact, the oratory contest was so important that the winning oration from Knox made *The Argus*' front page. Points earned in each event determined a state champion at the end of the weekend. Although Wesleyan garnered two second-place finishes in bicycle racing and oratory, "she" finished dead last in the contest—which *The Argus* blamed on school spirit, or the lack thereof. Only 15 fans made the trip to the contest, which prompted the first of many school spirit articles chastising students and community for their apathy:

> The Jacksonville people were all wild over the Illinois College boys and everybody wore their colors and yelled for them. Imagine Bloomington going wild over Wesleyan! That is a very ludicrous idea and yet our own school is both larger and better than Illinois College.

Editors devoted a whole page of this "inter-collegiate number" to cheers heard at the contest. Although small in number, the IWU contingency proudly shouted, "Tolly balolly baloo, rip rah roo! Boom de rah, boom de roo! We are in it! Who? Wesleyan, Wesleyan—IWU!"

This traditional cheer was heard again in 1896, when Wesleyan won the inter-collegiate contest on its home turf. Norman R. Williams (1898), the first *Argus* "athletic editor," apparently had enough sway to get the staff to dedicate



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN ARGUS

The FOOTBALL CAPTAIN

Sturdy and strong, each muscle in control,
From practice field to his victorious goal
He stands a king:
From waking on to sleep, from day to day,
One purpose holds an unrelenting sway;
The game's the thing.

He knows the value of the strong right arm,
No trust gives he to luck or mystic charm,
Yet more he seeks:
His team must think as one swift-working brain,
Must meet no loss they cannot mold to gain
Before he speaks.

Before him as he stands he sees the field,
The points of struggle where his foe will yield,
The hard-won goal:
He cannot see the strifes of coming years,
His value for the nation and his peers;
A ruling soul.
—By Mrs. Grace Jewett Austin.

VOLUME SEVENTEEN : NUMBER FIVE
NOVEMBER 23, 1910
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Backfield (and poetry) in motion (1910).

half of the October 23, 1896 issue to the victory. But the front page headline, "THE CUP IS OURS—Eureka and Blackburn easy victims—Knox and Illinois afraid of our athletes," greatly exaggerated Knox's and Illinois's fears. Buried in the article was a brief paragraph in which Williams explained how both schools, which traditionally fielded strong teams, had a different date on their schedules for the contest. Thanks to disorganized disorganization (and their absence, due to misunderstanding), Wesleyan won the event with ease.

Deception occurred not only in the early *Argus*, but on the field as well. On November 6, 1896, *The Argus* reported that Wesleyan's baseball managers and captains had recruited semi-pro "ringers" to pitch for IWU. Surely that and not "fear of our mighty players," as *The Argus* reported in previous issues, accounted for the number of opponents who chose to forfeit games rather than take the diamond against "the Wesleyan." As a result, the faculty and administration intervened in athletic affairs for the first time, declaring four baseball players "ineligible under college rules" and stipulating that any manager or captain who recruited "ringers" in the future would be suspended for a semester.

In those early years, objectivity was hardly a part of the sportswriter's trade. When Wesleyan won, "she routed" her opponent, and when Wesleyan lost, writers feasted on sour grapes. In a 1907 football story, "Wesleyan Loses a Winning Game," for example, *The Argus* reported that Illinois State Normal University "displayed good team work, but for individual work our team was superior. The ball was in Normal's territory most of the game." Given the tone of the article, one would never know that IWU lost 5-0. An earlier and more bitterly declaimed April 16, 1897 article described a women's basketball loss to the

Decatur Athletic Club:

> It was the worst robbery since Hercules stole the dogs of Hades. The referee called fouls on Wesleyan every half minute, whether there was a foul or not. . . . One of Decatur's goals never even went in the basket. It hit the side and we were blamed for knocking it out.

The first *Argus* play-by-play reporting came in the November 12, 1894 issue, where the headline proclaimed "In a Hot Game of Foot-ball the Eureka Eleven Beats the Wesleyan":

> The playing was brisk from the very beginning, and the Wesleyan made a touch down while Eureka was catching her breath, and followed this by a successful kick of goal, making the first score of the game and the only one she made. The Wesleyan made her six points within five minutes after the game was called, and a long intermission in Eureka's favor followed. Eureka was aroused to the playing point and made "touch downs" and "kicked goal" so fast you could hardly count them, and when time was called at the end of the last half had fifty points, having failed to kick goal only twice, and she won the game in a score of 50 to 6.

Early issues of *The Argus* rarely covered women's athletics, perhaps because sanctioned competition did not begin until the late 1960s. In the 1890s and early 1900s, basketball was the lone exception. IWU public speaking and physical education instructor Delmar Darrah introduced the sport to Bloomington-Normal in 1893, according to an article in the Illinois Wesleyan library archives. Back then, male athletes considered it "a sissy women's game" because any contact resulted in a foul. When covering this women's basketball victory over Illinois State Normal University, *Argus* sports writers focused on more than just the play-by-play:

> The Wesleyan girls were handicapped by the smoothness of the floor of the gymnasium, not being prepared for anything smooth at that institution. The Normal girls refused to allow the boys to witness the game. Not so with Wesleyan. They were willing and eager to distinguish themselves before their admirers among the sterner sex. (November 6, 1896)

It wasn't until 1909 that male students took interest in the less-than-manly sport of basketball and formed Wesleyan's first team (without a coach). After that, *The Argus* gave as much space to women's basketball as it did to women's tennis, swim meets or intramural play—next to zero. Even in 1923, when the university organized the Women's Athletic Association (W.A.A.) to coordinate and supervise intramural contests, coverage of women's sports remained slight.

Although baseball was IWU's first sport—the team suited up in 1878—football was most widely covered in *The Argus*. Part of it was timing. Through the 1930s, the baseball season ran until late June, long after the semester had ended, so it is no surprise that the newspaper skimped on coverage, reporting only box scores and game summaries from the first half of the season. In fact, fall intramural baseball received almost as much coverage as the varsity team—and the accounts

were much more entertaining. In one memorable game, the faculty downed the senior class 31-4, and chemistry professor Robert O. Graham reportedly "pounded the cover off the sphere, so professor Snyder had to go to Read's and get another." In 1994, Read's Sporting Goods remains a Bloomington-Normal fixture.

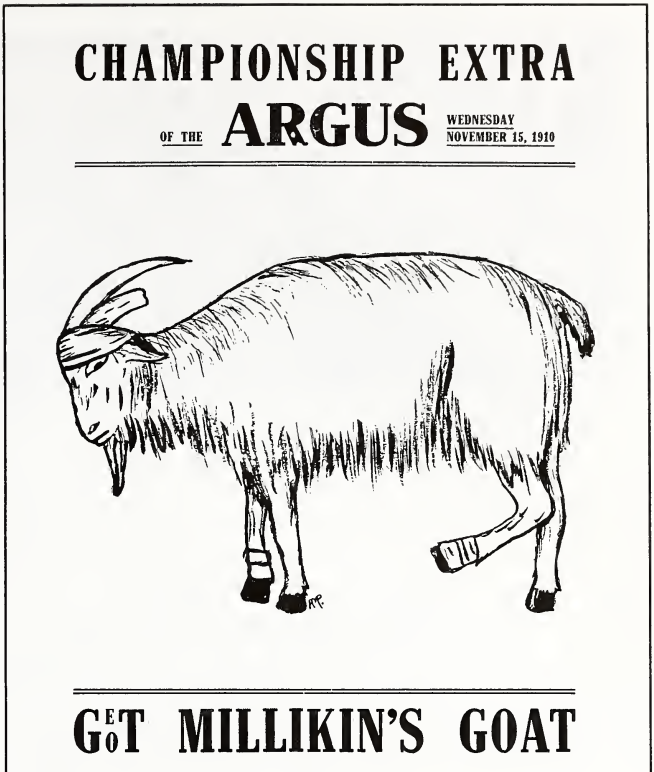
IWU's first band of gridders hit the field in 1887, and the squad of 1890 is famous for shutting out the University of Illinois 16-0 in the Illini's first game. Football continued strong through 1896, with *The Argus* covering Wesleyan's every tackle, yard and point. But when a new afternoon class policy halted football practice and threatened to cancel the 1897 season, sports editor Norman Williams (1898), who eventually wrote for *The Chicago Daily News*, was up in arms. "Can it be that the air of Wesleyan is so hostile to athletics that it smothers and kills the athletic aspirations and desires of former enthusiasts?" he asked in the October 1, 1897 *Argus*. Apparently so, for another 1897 article, "War on Football," reported nine deaths that occurred nationwide on the gridiron that year. The article also reported, "An ordinance to prohibit the game was asked for in the Bloomington council, but the request was denied by a vote of 11 to 3—Dr. Graham of the Wesleyan leading the opposition" (November 29, 1897).

With more prodding from Williams, Wesleyan played five unofficial football games in 1897—four of them against non-college opponents and one against Eureka College—without a coach. None counted on the university's official record. Williams continued to bemoan the state of intercollegiate athletics at Wesleyan throughout the rest of the school year, and his one-man crusade eventually persuaded the university to hire Mr. C.D. Enochs as football coach and lead the program back to prominence. In 1898, Williams, now an alum, must have taken special pleasure in reading that "Monmouth came, saw and was conquered" by Wesleyan's football team, 11-0. *The Argus* added that young men at Wesleyan were growing their hair long, once more, "so that it would absorb shock when tucked beneath headgear."

When football was axed again after a three-year combined record of 11-9-2, *The Argus* once again led the fight to reinstate the program. Sports editor Harry D. Cassaday ('04) lambasted the university's athletic board:

> The lack of interest in athletic affairs in the Wesleyan is certainly deplorable. Cornell [University's] athletic expense is nearly $50,000. That would . . . keep our teams going for 25 years. At the present rate of expenditure it would last to eternity. (October 10, 1902)

Cassaday continued his attack for two years, printing other college football scores where Wesleyan game stories would normally be. Finally, in 1904, after "taunting remarks from outsiders to the extent that Wesleyan was becoming a dead one," according to a September 23, 1904 *Argus* editorial, the university brought in coach James Riley to revive the team, and *Argus* football game stories returned to the front page. *The Argus* declared that football and athletics were "the anti-toxin for that something's wrong with me feeling that we had at the beginning of the last year," and students attended games with new enthusiasm. In 1907, the newspaper featured player and coach photographs for the first time.



CHAMPIONSHIP EXTRA

OF THE ARGUS WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 1910

GET MILLIKIN'S GOAT

The first "Extra" in Argus history celebrated a 12-0 gridiron victory over James Millikin University.

What stands out in this 100-year retrospective is the parity and status that sports gave Wesleyan among larger schools, before big money and scholarships created divisions in the NCAA. In 1910, the year that Wesleyan's football team was declared small college state champs with a 7-1 record, Wesleyan "stole the purple flag" against "Big 8" Northwestern University 3-0 in Evanston. But the biggest win of the season—a 12-0 shut-out of James Millikin University, whose mighty team had crushed Wesleyan in five previous battles—merited the only *Argus* sports "Extra" in history. The 16-page extra, which had contributions from nine different writers and pictures and comments from all the players, described every aspect of Wesleyan's 12-0 shutout, from a massive pep rally Friday night to the theft of Millikin's goat mascot on Saturday. "There have been many great days in the history of Wesleyan . . . but the week just past is without doubt composed of the seven greatest days of all," *The Argus* wrote.

However, just two years after Wesleyan won the mythical state championship, it endured a 3-4 season that included an 87-3 loss at Illinois, which remains the largest victory margin recorded by any Illinois team. "The results of that game are now recorded in the annals of time and the less we think about them the better," wrote George Stautz ('14), *Argus* athletic editor. Like most *Argus* sports editors, Stautz still found the game's bright features: "Dunham's drop kick from the forty yard line was one [which accounted for the three points]. While his wind lasted" (October 29, 1912).

In victory and defeat, one of the sports page's famous characters was Fred Muhl, Wesleyan athletic director until 1921 and mathematics professor until 1944. During the 1910 football season, the sports section had a habit of extending Muhl's advice to the football team to other aspects of student life. Before the

The team that beat Northwestern University (1910).

team defeated Northwestern, Muhl advised his players, "Don't bunch together and give your college yell. Don't give nine rahs for Northwestern after the game either. That's all right for a high school team . . . but it doesn't look well for a college." *The Argus* sports page added that if the entire campus followed Muhl's advice, class elections would be held without infighting, Wesleyan freshman and sophomores would not rudely insult each other (as was customary in those days) and underclassmen would respect those above them.

Whether or not Muhl inspired the student body, his record shows he must have inspired his athletic teams. In football, he logged a 44-40-11 record, and a 139-62 mark as a basketball coach. As Wesleyan's first basketball coach, *The Argus* reported him directing the "Methodist Five" to a 15-4 season in 1910-11 and a 14-3 mark in 1911-12. Led by high-scoring freshman Fred Young ('15), Wesleyan also ran away with the Illinois small college basketball tournament in 1912, defeating Bradley Institute 23-19 and Millikin 18-8 for the championship. A March 25, 1912 page-one *Argus* sports story after the tourney highlighted Wesleyan's victories over non-conference opponents, and reasoned that Muhl's Green and White should be declared the Midwest's best team: "Wesleyan defeated DePaul by a larger score than Notre Dame and . . . by comparative scores Wesleyan also has the dope on Augustana College in Rock Island and Northwestern College [later North Central College] in Naperville." *The Argus* also credited Muhl with establishing intercollegiate cross country, golf, track and tennis teams at IWU, as well as helping found Wesleyan's first conference, the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, better known then as the "Little Nineteen."

Although Illinois Wesleyan produced some fairly successful athletic teams during World War I, *The Argus* paid more attention to the battles taking place overseas than on Wilder Field or at the Bloomington YMCA, where Wesleyan played basketball until the university constructed its Memorial Gymnasium in 1921.

After the war, sports rumbled throughout *The Argus*. From 1921 to 1923,

football, basketball and baseball game stories consistently made the front page, usually accompanied by pictures and sports feature stories on athletes and coaches. Even the "Wesleyan Invitational" high school basketball tournament received extensive coverage.

From 1924 to 1925, sports lost some of their luster. Game stories still appeared on the front page, but player profiles and photos disappeared from the inside pages. This treatment only changed when page one of the December 17, 1924 issue reported "Reuben Borsch wins Rhodes Scholarship." The scholarship committee selected Borsch, who was "practically a straight 'A' student," varsity basketball and baseball player, and Y.M.C.A. president, over 587 candidates from 184 different colleges, including 12 finalists from the University of Chicago, University of Illinois and Northwestern. "Borsch's selection is therefore a tribute not only to him, but also to his university, and shows something of the high regard in which Wesleyan is generally held in the academic world," *The Argus* wrote. Borsch was the first of two IWU Rhodes Scholars. The second came in 1957, when John E. Jordan ('57), a member of Wesleyan's marching band, won the scholarship.

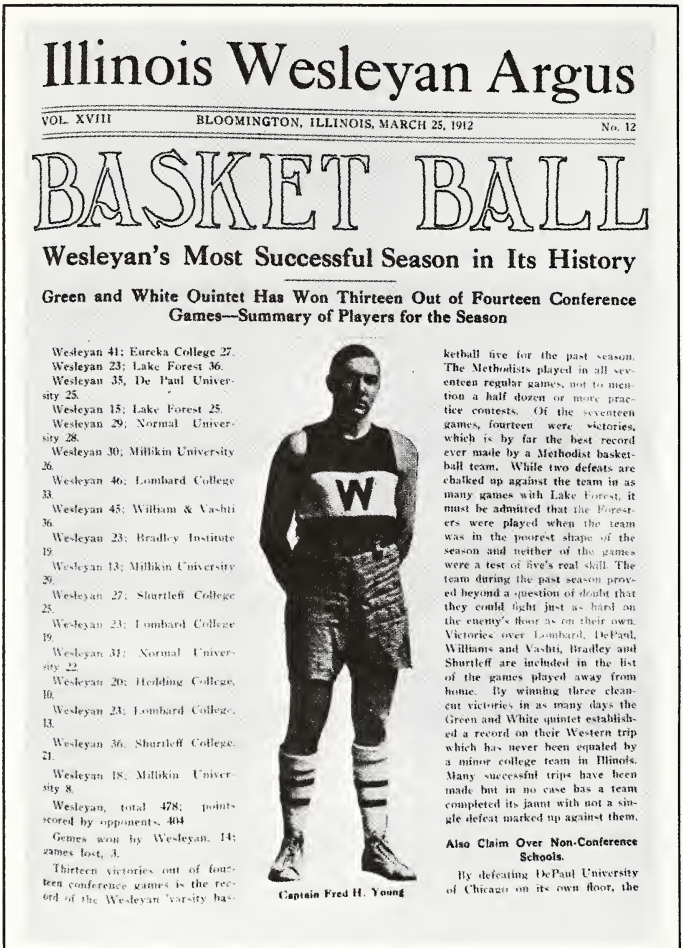
In 1926, under the direction of Richard Finfgeld, the sports page returned to its glory days with features, photographs and game summaries. Intramural sports coverage reached its zenith: baseball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, swimming and track for men; baseball, basketball, swimming and field hockey for women. A sports column, "The Colonel's Corner," written by an anonymous writer under the pseudonym "Colonel Tikweu," appeared and continued through the 1928-29 academic year. The Colonel told anecdotes about both professional and Wesleyan players and coaches, and made many attempts to boost school spirit.

Fred Young: Wesleyan's Own Sports Legend

But perhaps no one did more for school spirit from the 1920s to the 1980s than Wesleyan athlete turned *Pantagraph* sports editor Fred "Brick" Young. The IWU basketball player who lit up the scoreboards from 1911 to 1915 assisted the Wesleyan athletic program and, later, *The Argus* as much as his busy writing, coaching and officiating schedule allowed.

Even though Young never wrote for *The Argus* as an Illinois Wesleyan student, his presence was felt. Randomly pick up an issue between 1911 and 1915, and readers will likely see Young's name everywhere. In his college days, he captained two Little Nineteen conference-championship basketball teams and two runners-up. In an era where game scores rarely reached 50 points, he averaged 25 points per game. In looking back at Young's career, 1915-16 *Argus* athletics editor Howard Rhea ('17) described it as "one of the brightest basketball records ever made in the minor colleges of the Central West" (March 1, 1916).

Basketball was not Young's only sport. He also excelled on the diamond as "Wesleyan's No. 1 varsity twirler." The highlight of his career came when he pitched a no-hitter against future Cub hurler Joe Cook in a semi-pro league and drove in Jim Elliot (father of Pete and Bump) for the game's lone run. Despite his talents, Brick told *The Argus* he never was satisfied with his baseball ability.



Illinois Wesleyan Argus

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BASKET BALL

Wesleyan's Most Successful Season in Its History

Green and White Quintet Has Won Thirteen Out of Fourteen Conference Games—Summary of Players for the Season

Wesleyan 41; Eureka College 27.
Wesleyan 23; Lake Forest 36.
Wesleyan 35, De Paul University 25.
Wesleyan 15; Lake Forest 25.
Wesleyan 29; Normal University 28.
Wesleyan 30; Millikin University 26.
Wesleyan 46; Lombard College 33
Wesleyan 45; William & Vashti 36.
Wesleyan 23; Bradley Institute 19
Wesleyan 13; Millikin University 29.
Wesleyan 27; Shurtleff College 25.
Wesleyan 23; Lombard College 19
Wesleyan 31; Normal University 22.
Wesleyan 20; Hedding College, 10.
Wesleyan 23; Lombard College, 13.
Wesleyan 36; Shurtleff College, 21.
Wesleyan 18; Millikin University 8.
Wesleyan, total 478; points scored by opponents, 404
Games won by Wesleyan, 14; games lost, 3.

Thirteen victories out of fourteen conference games is the record of the Wesleyan 'varsity basketball five for the past season. The Methodists played in all seventeen regular games, not to mention a half dozen or more practice contests. Of the seventeen games, fourteen were victories, which is by far the best record ever made by a Methodist basketball team. While two defeats are chalked up against the team in as many games with Lake Forest, it must be admitted that the Foresters were played when the team was in the poorest shape of the season and neither of the games were a test of five's real skill. The team during the past season proved beyond a question of doubt that they could fight just as hard on the enemy's floor as on their own. Victories over Lombard, DePaul, Williams and Vashti, Bradley and Shurtleff are included in the list of the games played away from home. By winning three clean-cut victories in as many days the Green and White quintet established a record on their Western trip which has never been equaled by a minor college team in Illinois. Many successful trips have been made but in no case has a team completed its jaunt with not a single defeat marked up against them.

Captain Fred H. Young

Also Claim Over Non-Conference Schools.

By defeating DePaul University of Chicago on its own floor, the

Captain Fred Young led the IWU basketball team to a 14-3 record during the 1911-12 season, including victories over DePaul University and Bradley Institute.

Few know that Young claimed tennis to be his best sport, according to Illinois Wesleyan's sports information director, Stew Salowitz ('76). As a Wesleyan raqueteer, he twice finished second in the Little Nineteen conference tournament and won the Illinois high school singles title at Normal Community.

After a stint as a semi-professional basketball and baseball player, Young's journalistic background wasn't that extensive when he started writing as a reporter for *The Pantagraph* in 1918. Outside of his Wesleyan degree, the only qualification he listed on his job application was his job as a newspaper carrier for the *Bulletin* (Bloomington's other daily paper). However, Young's all-around knowledge of athletics made him a natural sports writer, and he became sports editor of *The Pantagraph* on May 15, 1922.

He received his nickname, "Brick," while living in the IWU Sigma Chi House, according to former *Argus* sports editor Don Raycraft, who along with Salowitz and former IWU football player Marty Capodice ('65), co-authored the book *McLean County Sports: A Sentimental Journey*. Raycraft said Young was one of the fraternity's most conservative members, prompting his brothers to call him "little Brigham Young." People shortened Brigham to Brick, and the name stuck.

But Young wasn't conservative when it came to helping *Argus* staffers. During his 36-year tenure as *Pantagraph* sports editor, he gave a number of his stories to *The Argus* free of charge. When the newspaper celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1944, Young fittingly wrote the "History of Sports at IWU" for a

special supplement. With his trademark straw hat and cigar, he was a popular target for *Argus* photographers and a great storyteller whose anecdotes made him an ubiquitous presence in sports features.

At times he was so downright ubiquitous that people had to shake their heads in amazement. According to the November 30, 1980 *Pantagraph*, for example, Young simultaneously coached five McLean County high school basketball teams and *officiated* a tournament where all five competed. When two of his teams played each other, he divided his halftime pep talks between them. As a referee, Young officiated 13 straight Illinois high school basketball finals and many of the nation's top college football games, including five Army-Notre Dame contests. He also worked in the National Football League and was field judge when the Chicago Bears destroyed the Washington Redskins 73-0 for the 1940 NFL title.

"For 20 years, Brick was known as the best combination football-basketball official in the nation," said former athletic director Jack Horenberger. "All players and coaches knew and respected him, and the fact that he was so well-known enabled him to do some great things for Illinois Wesleyan teams."

The greatest occurred in 1939, when Young's connections as a sportswriter and official sent the Titans to Cooperstown, New York, to play on legendary Doubleday Field (where baseball was supposedly first played in 1839) at the opening of the Baseball Hall of Fame. *The Argus* reported that, in a round robin tournament, IWU downed the University of Virginia 9-8 in 11 innings on June 17, but lost to Cornell University 3-2 in 10 on June 16 (Virginia beat Cornell, leaving all three schools with 1-1 records in the tournament.). Cooperstown's Hall of Fame was dedicated just before the tourney on June 12, part of the summer-long festivities commemorating 100 years of baseball.

Young also organized Wesleyan's first spring baseball road trip, an idea so new in 1930 that Michigan State was the only other midwestern college to do so. According to Horenberger, Young "single-handedly recruited most of the good athletes we had from 1925 to 1965, and he never got a dime for it. In fact, he wrote so many letters, he probably lost money." Young also served as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin's commissioner for 17 years. He twice was a member of the United States Olympic Committee.

It must have come as no shock when *The Argus* reported on October 8, 1965 that the university named him "Mr. Illinois Wesleyan" at the 1965 homecoming game—a title informally given to only two others, Fred Muhl and Jack Horenberger. Although Young died in 1980 at the age of 88, his name still appears in *The Argus* every time the Titans play a game at Fred Young Fieldhouse, which was dedicated on March 2, 1965, and which will be torn down when the new Shirk Athletic Center opens in 1994 to make room for parking. A memorial to Young is planned for the Shirk Center.

Young once said that "sportsmanship is simple. It is merely being gentle in strength; being courageous in weakness; keeping the rules; playing the game; being on the level with adversaries and being on the level with yourself."

The Birth of the Titans

The world of sports is full of nicknames like the "The Four Horsemen," "Crazylegs" Hirsch, "Bull Dog Turner" or, more recently, Michael "Air" Jordan, "Black Jack" McDowell, William "The Refrigerator" Perry, and "Sir Charles" Barkley. In the early years of Wesleyan sports, *The Argus* featured "handles" just as colorful, including football players "War Horse" Amos Johnson (offensive tackle on the 1898 team), "Battering Ram" O'Dwyer (an 1898 fullback who "could go through the line like a buzz-saw through a chunk of butter"), "Flying Dutchman" Heafer (a defensive end on the 1898 team), "Silent" Fred Muhl (Wesleyan football coach from 1909-1920, so named in 1910 because he walked softly and carried a big stick), Bill "Big Steine" Steinkraus (the offensive tackle for the 1910 state champs), "Bustem'" Bob Morrow (a 1940 fullback who led the Titans to a conference championship, made the *Chicago Tribune*'s all-star team and coached the Titans from 1947-1950), Don "Swede" Larson (Wesleyan's fullback and football MVP in 1948 who also came back to coach the Titans from 1955-1986) and Don "Houn'dog" Eddy (a "big left tackle" on the 1949 football team).

Then there were baseball players Roy "Rookey" Church (who "wielded the willow so well he put the average batter to shame" in 1902), Bobby "Ace" Winkles (who "handled the third base hot corner for the Titan baseball team very capably" in 1949 and ended up managing in the majors), as well as Glenn "Frenchie" Haussler (the only freshman athlete in Wesleyan history to letter in four sports— football, basketball, baseball and track—in a single year, 1920), Harold "Wimpy" Wimperly (who held the conference 100-yard dash record of 9.7 seconds in 1940), and "Ding" Darling (sprinter and low hurdler on the 1923 track team). And move over, Red Grange. IWU even had its own "Galloping Ghost"— Paul Hensel (a 1931 fullback and 1932 trackster who broke the conference record in the quarter mile, also called "Butch" and "Old War Horse").

It didn't stop there. By all *Argus* accounts, Wesleyan sports teams had more nicknames than early reporters knew what to do with, though none of them clicked with *The Argus* sports department:

> It is generally conceded that the term "Green and White's" is not distinguishing enough and does not call attention to the fact that it IS the Wesleyan team. The city papers unfortunately have the habit of calling them the "Methodists" which is not in keeping with Wesleyan policies, as we do not care to be too definitely distinguished as Methodists. The term "Gaws," it is agreed, is unattractive and meaningless. Most of the students characterize it as dumb. On the whole, everyone agrees that we need a name. (October 29, 1924)

With that, the newspaper launched its own contest to create a new team name, with apoligies that it could not offer "a substantial prize" to the winner. To get readers thinking, *The Argus* reported nicknames already being used by universities: "Bear Cats," "Buckeyes," "Scrapers," "Forresters," "Little Giants" and "Flickers."

While no follow-up story appeared after the plea, the article apparently started the thought process for a new nickname—one which did not appear in *The*

Argus until October 27, 1927, when the paper reported that "With a tie staring them in the face at the start of the fourth quarter, the Titans pulled themselves together to score the winning touchdown" and defeat Carthage 12-6. *The Argus*' use of the "Titan" nickname came within a week after *The Pantagraph* responded, albeit belatedly, to the call for a more kindly term than "Gaws," and began calling them Titans.

Strangely enough, like *The Argus*, named for the 100-eyed monster slain by the Greek god Hermes, "Titans" also comes from Greek mythology. The Titans, twelve children of Uranus and Gaea, were "the Elder gods" and first deities of the ancient Greeks, large and powerful figures representing the primitive force of nature. After 1929, when sports writers began using Titans as the school's calling card, the term became a lasting part of Wesleyan sports tradition.

It is fitting that the Titan nickname came in an era where sports dominated *The Argus*. Richard Finfgeld's 1926 sports page became the model that *Argus* sports editors would follow until World War II, the only difference between Finfgeld and future sports editors being an occasional expansion of his ideas. Player photographs and previews of opponents increased, and batting averages, box scores, schedules, shooting percentages and other statistics accompanied both varsity and intramural stories.

As *The Argus* sports pages gained prominence in the late 1920s, so did the basketball team, which produced four Little Nineteen championships between 1925 and 1929. It is in following the success of coach Wally Roettger's "Green and White Cage Five" that *Argus* sports writers began to write with less "rah-rah" than previous reporters. In 1929, Wesleyan pounded Lincoln College 42-26, but the story graciously added an early version of Yogi Berra's "it ain't over till it's over" maxim:

> The score cannot tell the anxiety that was felt in the Methodist section when through some uncanny basket shooting by Conner in the second half, the Railsplitters crept to within 10 points of the local quintet before the Green had scored a single point. No hardwood game is in the bag until the final whistle. (January 16, 1929)

Some sports writers followed so many Little Nineteen games that they confidently named conference all-star teams. *The Argus* also selected many intramural all-star teams for both men and women from 1927 to 1936.

Tony Blazine ('35), a defensive tackle and offensive lineman for the Titan gridders, received mention on all *Argus* all-star teams. With Blazine anchoring both lines, Wesleyan finished first in the Little Nineteen his sophomore, junior and senior years, and battled "Big 10" power Michigan State in a 20-12 loss in 1933: "Playing an alert, fighting brand of ball the Green and White pushed over two touchdowns and were leading 12 to 0 as the half ended. Michigan State came back in the third quarter, and finished with too much power for Wesleyan to cope with" (October 18, 1933). (Incidentally, an 18-0 loss to Michigan State in 1938 was the Titans' final game against any Big Ten conference school.)

As a senior, Blazine earned first-team honors on the Associated Press minor college squad and an honorable mention on the all-college AP All-American team. Blazine still holds the record for most minutes played in a college all-star game—a record set when he anchored both lines for 57 minutes at Soldier Field in 1935. He went on to play professionally with the Chicago Cardinals.

Anecdotal sports columns also continued to evolve under such "headers" as "Burrow's Brays," "Bud's Bingle," "Cork's Corner," "Titan Tales" and "Sport Topics," the latter of which author John N. Langham ('30) declared to be "mainly about nothing; read it at your own risk." The 1930s and early 1940s also saw extensive coverage of Wesleyan's minor sports (cross country, swimming, track, golf and tennis). In 1931, *The Argus* even added a women's sports editor, Eloise Birney ('32), to cover the increasing number of women's intramural contests. And from 1931-46, ten different women's sports editors assumed the duty of writing one five- to 10-inch story which described weekly highlights in W.A.A. field hockey, basketball, volleyball, baseball, tennis and swimming. Since women's sports stories did not focus on individual games, they tended to be as dull as a weather report:

> The Class Basket Ball Championship was awarded to the Junior-Senior team when they again defeated their Freshmen rivals Saturday morning by a score of 13-18 in their own favor. They have been running a close race with the Freshmen for the championship, but when they defeated them Saturday morning, they were awarded a clear title to the Championship on the grounds that they have won four of their five games played. (November 28, 1934.)

In 1936, under the direction of coach Harry Bell, the Titan cagers won the Little Nineteen with a 20-0 record—Wesleyan's only undefeated basketball team in school history. That year's captain and most valuable player, a young "blonde from Grayslake" by the name of Jack Horenberger, "proved to be an inspiration to his team," according to *The Argus*. "His steady work at guard rallied the boys in many situations, and he was a constant threat as a scorer. His worth was recognized by officials and pressmen, as he was named the outstanding guard of the conference in the United Press all-star selections" (March 4, 1936).

Horenberger, who also excelled as the baseball team's shortstop, returned to IWU in 1942 as head basketball and baseball coach, and began as athletic director in 1947. In 1965, he turned over the Titan basketball program to his protégé, Dennie Bridges ('61). Bridges, a four-year letterman in basketball (at guard) and baseball (at shortstop) and a three-year letterman in football (at quarterback), has built a 487-283 record in 28 years of coaching. He became athletic director in 1981 when Horenberger retired.

One of the radio announcers that called Horenberger's name in some of the Titans' 20 basketball triumphs in 1936 was none other than Baseball Hall of Fame announcer Jack Brickhouse. An interview which appeared in the September 25, 1992 *Argus* revealed that Brickhouse started his legendary play-by-play career covering Little Nineteen conference football, basketball and base-

ball games for Peoria's WMBD-Radio from 1935-39. In fact, Brickhouse's famous "Back, back . . . HEY, HEY!" Cubs' home run call may have been tested at Wesleyan long before it made its way to the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

Basketball most valuable player and captain Dennie Bridges was also the gridders' regular quarter back (1961).

What's more, Brickhouse told *The Argus* that he and Illinois Wesleyan were involved in a controversy that led to what may have been the first broadcasting fee in media history. In 1939, the university fired coach Bell, who had built a four-year 20-13-3 record in football and 51-31 record in basketball. Brickhouse, who knew Bell as his own coach at Peoria Manual High School, felt Bell was getting fired because "he was getting some bad press," not because he was doing a bad job.

Bell did receive some bad press. The February 13, 1939 *Pantagraph* ran a story headlined "Campus Buzzes As Bell Leaves Regulars Behind," which failed to include Bell's reasons for suspending five basketball players before a road game with DePaul University. Instead, the article focused on negative comments from those players he left behind. Brickhouse took offense.

"I was in my 'young Turk' days at the time," he said. "On the air, I made a comment that 'a school shouldn't fire a coach because a sports editor says so.'" And when that sports editor was the legendary Fred Young, the university, and all of central Illinois for that matter, did not appreciate Brickhouse's comments.

"The administration was tired of all the bad circumstances surrounding the firing, and they weren't going to let Brickhouse broadcast another Wesleyan game ever again," said Horenberger. The issue was so touchy, in fact, that *The Argus* reported Bell's dismissal without giving any reason for it.

Before the situation escalated out of control, Brickhouse met with WMBD and Wesleyan President Wiley G. Brooks to settle their differences before Brickhouse was to broadcast the Bradley-Wesleyan basketball game. "As a peace offering at the meeting, WMBD donated $25 to the Wesleyan Athletic Fund so I could continue broadcasting the games. Everybody settled their differences, and I called the game later on that day. As far as I know, it's the first broadcasting fee in history," Brickhouse said.

Most athletes at that time would agree that the school needed the $25. In the early years of Illinois Wesleyan sports, money was scarce and finding a place to play was often tougher than the games themselves. Although the university purchased Wilder Field (named for then-President William H. Wilder) in 1893 with $500 in student contributions and some of Wilder's own money, according to Watson's *Illinois Wesleyan Story* and *Pantagraph* reports, it wasn't until 1937 that fans were able to watch athletic events in relative comfort. In that year, IWU, the Bloomington Association of Commerce and several city athletic associations sponsored the groundbreaking of a new stadium to be constructed with Works Progress Administration funds. Although the WPA, a New Deal agency, had not yet totally completed the stadium's main grandstand and locker rooms for the 1938 season, "it was used Saturday in a Varsity Frosh scrimmage and the playing field was found satisfactory enough to warrant using it for the Carbondale game," according to the September 20, 1938 *Argus*. That weekend, Wesleyan's Titans crushed Southern Illinois-Carbondale 19-0, and by 1941 the 3,500-seat "Bloomington Community Stadium" was finally completed at a cost of $200,000. Bloomington Community Stadium changed its name to "Wesleyan Stadium" in the early 1970s, when the university gained the title to the structure. The athletic department installed lights for night games in 1949, but removed them in 1973 for fear that the posts might blow over. And with Homecoming and Dad's Day games being played during the day, the university wasn't generating extra revenue by playing at night, according to Horenberger.

A Break in the Action, Followed by a Bowl Game

Two years after the United States entered World War II and patriotism called able-bodied men into service, *The Argus* moved football game stories—which had consistently appeared on the front page since 1904—to the inside pages. But war did not halt all intercollegiate sports at IWU, thanks to a batch of burly Navy pilot cadets who participated in intercollegiate sports as part of their training. The biggest problem turned out to be coaching. In 1943, *The Argus* reported that head football coach Van F. Howe and assistant Jack Horenberger both accepted Naval commissions, but Wesleyan was lucky to enlist the aid of Cecil Russell, who led the cadets to a 2-4-1 record with wins over Western Illinois and Indiana State.

Field hockey in front of Memorial Gymnasium (date unknown).

The war had many far-reaching effects. In the case of journalism at

Illinois Wesleyan's CCI and CCIW Championships, 1947-1993

Football:	1948, 1951, 1964, 1965, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1992
Basketball:	1949, 1954, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1970, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1991, 1992
Baseball:	1948, 1949, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1977, 1978, 1989
Golf:	1959, 1960, 1968, 1977
Tennis:	1963, 1964
Softball:	1991
Volleyball:	1991
Women's Tennis:	1992

IWU, it profoundly affected sports coverage. Even when athletes returned to campus after V-J Day, sports stories would never again run on page one, except for conference championships, postseason tournaments and well-publicized grudge matches with Illinois State University.

While coverage of organized sports was scaled back because of the war, men's intramural coverage virtually dropped out of the newspaper. Only 112 of Wesleyan's 436 students in 1943 were male, so men who participated in athletics did so on the varsity level, and intramurals fell by the wayside. Women's intramurals also declined during the war with field hockey, basketball and volleyball being the only W.A.A. sponsored intramural sports receiving sparse coverage in *The Argus.* However, Maurita Rodgers ('46), 1943-44 women's sports editor, wrote, "The girls devote themselves wholeheartedly to these sports, which makes up entirely for the greater number of sports played in the past" (April 19,1944).

The declining state of the intramural program finally caused the entire editorial board to sound off on April 26, 1950:

> The campus organizations have howled for a better intramural program until they are out of breath, and what has happened? Exactly nothing. Then, *The Argus* thought that maybe too much griping was being done, and tried to give a little pat on the back. And what happened again? Exactly nothing. Is it the fault of the students? It sure as heck isn't! The students have tried, the organizations have tried, and what did they get for their efforts? They got more than nothing—they got a perfectly lousy intramural program that isn't even worthy of the name.

Despite the newspaper's call for action, intramurals continued to decline. By 1952, sports editors reduced most intramural basketball, volleyball, tennis,

Toe to toe: the Terrapin swim club (1955).

swimming and track coverage to three-paragraph stories that told game scores and team standings. Gone were the days of detailed game summaries, box scores and all-star teams.

Replacing some of the space that intramurals once filled were pictures of the Terrapins, Wesleyan's mostly-female synchronized swimming club. Organized in 1930s, the Terrapins' annual swim shows were popular action shot photographs for sports photos (especially when the photo editor was male) until the club disbanded in 1983.

Despite the decline of intramurals in the postwar period, varsity sports rebounded to their glory days in *The Argus*, largely thanks to the birth of the College Conference of Illinois in 1946. Charter members included Augustana, Carthage (then in Carthage, Illinois), Elmhurst, Illinois College, IWU, James Millikin, Lake Forest, North Central and Wheaton. With only nine conference schools, as opposed to the 21 who competed in the Little Nineteen, the odds of winning a CCI title were much greater. Wesleyan proved this by winning football and baseball championships as early as 1948 and a basketball crown in 1949. The Titans fittingly sealed their first CCI football championship with a victory over Millikin, the same school they defeated for the mythical 1910 state championship. This time, however, *The Argus* paid attention to the game, not the goat:

> Looking like the Green and White wave of old, the Titans Saturday rolled over Millikin, 27-6, in a game which presented the Knights of Green with the CCI title. The northsiders' performance was outstanding as they chalked up their fifth win against no losses in Little Nine play. (November 17, 1948)

In 1967, The CCI became the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin to accommodate Carthage's move to Kenosha and the addition of Carroll (Waukesha), a member from 1955-1992. In 1994, the league boasts eight schools—Augustana, Carthage, Elmhurst, IWU, Millikin, North Central, North Park (since 1962) and Wheaton.

The postwar era brought improved graphics and regular sports "action shots," which eliminated posed photographs and made the entire section more

exciting and realistic. Sports writing techniques also improved. For the first time, *Argus* sports journalists wrote leads that laid out a plan for their stories, much like a thesis statement does for an essay. Consider the lead for this 1948 football preview:

> When Wesleyan hits the gridiron for the first time this season at Upper Alton against Shurtleff, Sept. 25, conjectures will get their first look at the highly touted Titan line and a question mark backfield. But one thing is almost a certainty—the Green and White will be a much improved ball club. (September 17, 1948)

Although the 1948 football preview writer did not attribute his prognosis for "improvement" to a particular player or coach, it turned out to be prophetic. Coach "Bustem" Morrow's Titans, who had logged a disappointing 3-5-1 record in 1947, won the CCI in 1948 with a 6-0 mark and earned a bid to the Second Louis E. Davis Post 56 American Legion Corn Bowl Game. Since it was designed to pit the CCI winner against the Illinois Intercollegiate Athletic Association champs (which *The Argus* declared the two best small-college conferences in the state in a November 24, 1948 Corn Bowl preview), it was played at Bloomington County Stadium on Thanksgiving Day—in the heart of corn country. The Corn Bowl even had a parade witnessed by some 30,000 people, according to its program.

But *The Argus* was not too optimistic about the Green and White's chances for victory in its preview. The newspaper dubbed IIAC champion Eastern Illinois the best small college football squad in the Midwest, and pointed out that the Panthers downed Illinois State Normal in the regular season, while ISNU had ransacked the Titans 32-6 just a week prior to the Corn Bowl. The headline "Panthers Sure of Easy Victory" said it all. So much for "Tolly, Balolly, Baloo."

But *The Argus* happily ate its words on December 1 with this front page headline: "Titans are Corn Bowl Champs." After Gib Baechler ('51) plunged one yard to give Wesleyan a 6-0 lead with 1:06 remaining in the game, a crowd of more than 8,500 erupted: "They blinked their eyes—amazed, dumfounded, and with unbelieving expressions on their faces—unable to comprehend fully what had happened," wrote *The Argus*, which called the Corn Bowl "one of the most unforgettable games in Titan history." Fullback Don "Swede" Larson, who earned Most Valuable Player honors in 1948, would later post a 166-121-6 mark as Titan head coach from 1954-86.

In 1950, the newspaper enthusiastically created and sponsored the *"Argus* Award"—a 10-year traveling trophy presented to the basketball team's most valuable player after each season. Fran Sommers ('50) took home the first award, but must never have brought it back, for it received no mention in the newspaper ever again.

From such front-page glory, IWU sports sunk, for a time, into gentle oblivion. In the 1950s, the campus grew so used to winning teams that sports coverage dwindled to four-inch summaries, with box scores and statistics no longer included. Even though five straight CCI baseball championships from 1956-60

remains a Wesleyan record, none of them aroused any excitement among *The Argus* sports staff. When Wesleyan won the title in 1956, *The Argus* ran only a two-paragraph story. The headline for the fifth title on May 20, 1960 read, "Wesleyan Baseball Champ; Titans Top Elmhurst, Millikin." The lead reported that "Illinois Wesleyan, streaking to its fifth straight CCI baseball championship, polished off Millikin, its chief contender, twice in a home and home series Thursday, May 12, and Tuesday, May 17." Had the Titans taken five titles during the 1930s, *The Argus* probably would have devoted an entire issue to the accomplishment. By 1960, the sports staff didn't even run a picture. Even when the baseball team defeated larger schools like Illinois, Northwestern, Purdue and Notre Dame, *The Argus* seemed to expect victory.

When Wesleyan's basketball team earned trips to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Tournament at Kansas City in 1961, 1966, 1970-1971 and 1975-1977, the student body found renewed interest. Only 32 teams qualified for the tournament when IWU participated, so just being there was an honor, and *The Argus* recognized this by running most NAIA tourney stories on the front page. As 1977 sports editor Wayne Richards ('79) put it, "The Kansas City Experience. It can't be described in one word, nor is it always a week filled with too many events to count. . . . [A]s long as your team wins you get to stay in the magical city." The university even became so excited that it sponsored pep rallies and canceled classes so students could road-trip to "KC." Unfortunately for the students, that practice ended in 1972 with a double disappointment. In addition to Wesleyan not qualifying for the NAIA tourney, the university announced that classes would no longer be canceled for future Kansas City trips. The sports staff protested the decision to no avail.

Another NAIA competition that received top billing in the March 26, 1965 *Argus* was the national diving championships in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where IWU's own Marty Spaulding ('67) finished in second place out of more than 40 divers. *The Argus* reported that Spaulding led throughout most of the competition but was nosed out by Union College's Bob Long for the title. Long was a former member of the U.S. Navy diving squad, so he was "an experienced diver to say the least." Despite Spaulding's success, the university removed swimming from the varsity level in 1968, re-instating it in 1989.

The Rivalry

Long before any major leaguers suited up for the Titans, and even before students organized Wesleyan's first baseball team in 1878, Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan Universities were starting a rivalry that would grow to be among the oldest in college sports. On June 19, 1869, *The Pantagraph* printed an item which read, "A match game of Base ball was played yesterday between the Wesleyan club, of the Wesleyan university, and the Normal club, of the Normal school." It was a five-inning contest "in which the Wesleyans were victorious," 22-10. No matter who won the grudge matches between Normal and Wesleyan, the presence of two competitive university athletic programs has created its share

of excitement and controversy in Bloomington-Normal over the years.

Prior to 1964, the official name for Illinois State University was Illinois State Normal University, with "Normal" being the school's calling card. (During the 1920s, *The Argus* preferred to call it "the suburban school.") Between the 1940s and 1970, *The Argus* reported that ISU students spray-painted red "N's" on Wesleyan's football field before the yearly match-up. (Incidentally, Wesleyan terminated the football series in 1969 because its enrollment and athletic programs did not grow at the same rate as ISU's.) IWU students did not behave like angels either. Many spray-painted green "W's" all over ISU's campus and would steal Illinois State's treasured victory bell for use at pep rallies.

Don Raycraft, an *Argus* staff writer and sports editor from 1960 to 1962, seized the opportunity of seeing the rivalry from both sides of the fence. In the summer of 1962, he received a phone call from the editor of the Illinois State Normal *Vidette*, who asked him to "switch hit" and become the rival newspaper's sports editor.

"Fine," replied Raycraft. And so began one of the weirdest transitions any college sports editor in the nation could undergo.

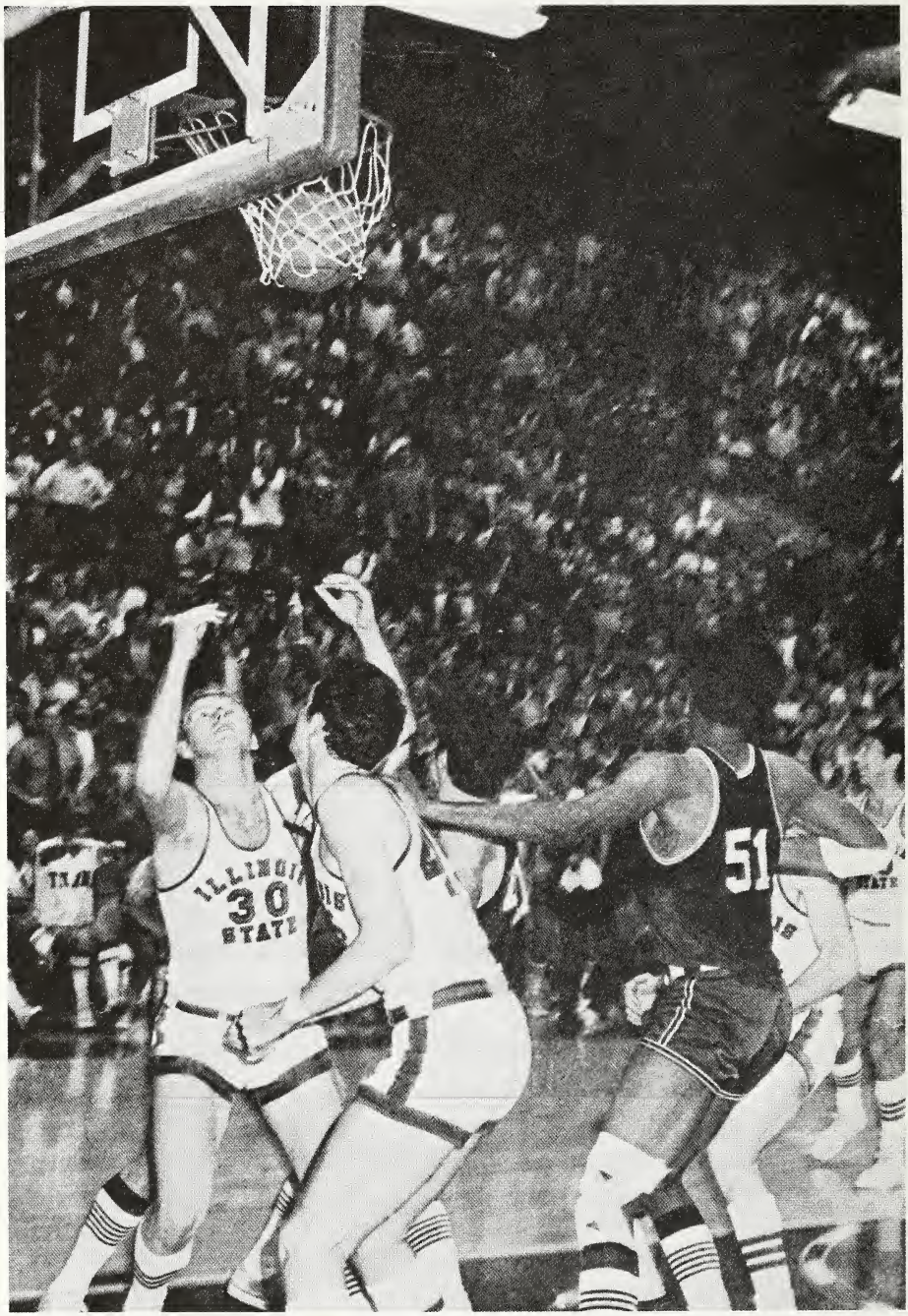
"I look back on it now and it was really an odd thing, but, at the time, it didn't phase me," said Raycraft, who lived at home and didn't have to worry about room and board. "Wesleyan never had a more difficult rivalry than with Normal. Students from Wesleyan used to come to ISU in their bathrobes and spray-paint the walls of the dorms and ISU students would come to Wesleyan and return the favor."

Occasionally, the college pranks grew out of control. The November 21, 1958 *Argus* abruptly reported that, "Last week's brawl at the football game ruined 59 minutes of clean hard play. . . .We're hoping that in the future team members and students of both schools will think twice before displaying unsportsmanlike conduct."

When Wesleyan students stole the bell before the final football game in 1969, *The Argus* later reported, "Illinois State's treasured victory bell tolled at Wesleyan's pep rally Friday night 24 hours before ISU got to ring it" September 26, 1969 in a 27-6 victory. The win gave the Redbirds a 36-35-7 edge in the series which dated back to April 1887. At the time, the series was the tenth-oldest grid rivalry in the nation, according to *The Argus*.

The basketball rivalry was a different story. Wesleyan held a comfortable 68-42 series lead going into the final game in January 1970, but still wanted to win to prove to the "Birdies" that it could compete with larger colleges. An August 22, 1969 "Spectator" column offered reasons why the series, which ISU asked to terminate, should have been continued:

> A top-flight football team requires many hands and minds. A large school such as ISU has, through its expansion, put itself into a higher class of gridiron powers. . . . Basketball, unlike football, requires only a few talented individuals, and it has been proven that small schools can



Last second, last shot, last game. IWU beats ISU by one point (1970).

> outclass the supersized megauniversities. . . . The only reason for the change seems to be a deflated ego on the part of ISU.

The final game turned out to be even more exciting than the 1948 Corn Bowl. *Argus* sports editor Howie Elliot ('71) reported that ISU's Horton Fieldhouse was packed to the rafters, and offered this play-by-play account:

> Until the last 40 seconds, the Titan cagers had not been ahead since the first five minutes of the first half. . . . After an ISU over and back call, Wesleyan worked for the right shot. . . . After a jump ball [ISU's Greg] Guy fouled Josh Gibson and Gibson gave the Titans a 68-67 lead with 40 seconds remaining. (January 16, 1970)

That was only the beginning of the drama. ISU took a 68-67 lead with seven seconds remaining and coach Bridges called his final time out of the game. During the time-out, he told Gibson to throw the inbound pass to either Stan Boer or Tom Gramkow and for Sheldon Thompson and Fred Evans to rebound.

> Gramkow drove in and shot. With about a second and-a-half remaining, the ball swished through the basket to give the Titans a 69-68 victory. The entire Wesleyan crowd mobbed onto the court. . . . Regarding Gramkow's performance, Bridges said after the game, "Gramkow's my son."

Photography editor Dave Breen's ('72) photograph of Gramkow's shot swishing through the net not only made the front page of *The Argus*, but also was distributed and sold as a poster in cooperation with Gummerman Printing. A copy of the poster still hangs in Bridges' office—a fitting reminder of one of Wesleyan's most celebrated triumphs.

Kindred's Korner: The Beginning of a Big League Career

As Wesleyan's teams were prepping a few of their players for professional sports careers, *The Argus* provided "minor league" experience for some who went on to careers in sports writing. Dave Kindred ('63), who served as sports editor and associate editor of *The Argus*, became a contributing editor and regular columnist for *The Sporting News*. Kindred was the first modern sports columnist in *Argus* history. Unlike the anecdotal columnists of the past, Kindred chose a single theme, developed a thesis and delivered an entertaining opinion on a certain subject. He wrote not only about Wesleyan athletics, but also about the national sports scene and Wesleyan's relation to it. So successful was his format that it provided a model for 1963 *Argus* writer Jim Bennett ('64), whose weekly column, "The Spectator," continued to observe athletic events in *The Argus* until 1975.

Kindred also was one of few people who can say that his love of newspapers and ability to write allowed him to attend Illinois Wesleyan University for free. In his day, *The Pantagraph* selected one incoming freshman with journalistic potential as recipient of *The Pantagraph* Newspaper Scholarship, which paid for half the student's tuition. *The Pantagraph* picked up the other half if the student agreed to work for the newspaper. Kindred, an Atlanta, Illinois, native, couldn't pass up the offer.

In what little spare time he had left after working for Bloomington's daily and Wesleyan's weekly, Kindred put down the pen and picked up the bat and glove as a four-year baseball letterman. With Kindred on the mound and at second base, the Titans earned three CCI titles and a second-place finish between 1960 to 1963.

In the midst of all this activity, "I even went to school sometimes," said Kindred. "I just kept working and working. The only memories I have of *The Argus* were constantly being in the office and writing that stupid column."

That stupid column, "Kindred's Korner," turned out to be a step on the ladder to Kindred's lucrative career as a journalist and sports columnist. Today, thousands read his columns on a regular basis in *The Sporting News* and also read his articles in *Golf* magazine, for which he is a contributing editor. He has written three sports books, including a collection of his columns entitled *Heroes, Fools and Other Dreams.* He said his proudest moment came in 1991 when he was the eleventh and youngest person ever to win the Red Smith Award, which is awarded yearly by the Sports Editors of America for lifetime sports writing achievement.

The following "Kindred's Korner" creatively personified Memorial Gym's reaction to the news of a new indoor fieldhouse. Ironically, Memorial's successor, Fred Young Fieldhouse, which was dedicated in 1962, will be replaced by the Shirk Athletic Center in 1994. When reading, note how the column weaves fact with fantasy and gives Kindred's own opinion of the new fieldhouse. The gym's wish at the end for Wesleyan to come up with a good basketball team "for a change" might surprise some readers, but in the four seasons prior to this column, the Titans' combined record was 30-57.

Memorial Feeling the Strain of Years

(Dave Kindred, *The Argus*, October 21, 1960)

Illinois Wesleyan's Memorial Gymnasium slammed its doors against the numbing wind, put out the lights, and heaved a sigh of relief.

Another Titan basketball season was over, and the gym's weary boards could get a little rest.

"After all," it thought, "I've been around here a long time. Ya know, it's a good thing they're retiring me in a couple years, because I couldn't take much more of this pounding."

But the gymnasium still has two more seasons of "pounding" before its athletic burden is lightened by a glittering fieldhouse.

The fieldhouse, now occupied by Illinois Agricultural Association offices, should be ready for the 1961-62 basketball season.

"And it couldn't come at a better time," says Memorial. "It was getting so the players were too big for me. The visiting teams never really liked me, and everybody griped because I was so little and so old."

But not everyone disliked Memorial's cozy confines. Titan cage coach Jack Horenberger says, "It was a nice home floor."

Does he regret leaving it? "Not a bit," the veteran mentor says. He is anxiously awaiting the day when the Green and White forces can move into the modernistic fieldhouse.

Although the red-hot rivalries of varsity basketball will be taken from Memorial, the gymnasium will not be without its chores.

While the ghosts of former Wesleyan greats relax in the balcony of the gym, IWU co-eds will cavort in physical education classes.

Swimming classes will stay in Memorial also, unless a new pool is built into the fieldhouse.

There will be four other changes when the athletic spotlight shifts from Memorial to the unnamed fieldhouse:

1. Men's physical education classes will be moved into the new building.
2. All-school convocations will be re-located.
3. Bleachers will be removed from Memorial.
4. And wrestling will rejoin the IWU varsity program.

But, as is true of old women, most of the interesting things about Memorial concern its past.

Born in complete agreement of the faculty and athletic department, the gymnasium, dedicated to those IWU students who died in World War I, was ready for use by June of 1922.

The Irish of Notre Dame were guests at a dedicatory game that winter.

Byron Wimberly was the athletic director then. The beginning of his tenure marked a change in the policy and leadership of Wesleyan athletic programs.

Perhaps the change had been brought about by the appointment of Rev. William J. Davidson as president of the University. Davidson had been an athlete, his favorite sports being baseball and boxing.

And now the aging gymnasium, its eyes glittering as it looks to a future of ease, is girding its colonial structures for another season of basketball.

Memorial says, "Ya know what I'd like? I'd like Wesleyan to come up with a good basketball team for a change.

"I don't get nearly so stiff when the Titans win. But all those losses lately really hurt me."

The Professionals

Quite a few Titans eventually moved beyond the sports pages of Wesleyan's *Argus*. One such player, who played a key role when the Titans swept a doubleheader against Notre Dame in 1951, was third basemen Bobby "Ace" Winkles ('52), who hit .400 and led the team in home runs, triples, hits, runs batted in and total bases. When Winkles told the newspaper his freshman year that he hoped to play professional baseball, some readers may have chuckled, especially because he made the comment during a basketball preview. (At 5'8", Ace was one of the Titans' speediest guards.) Winkles' dream came true after his junior year, when he signed as a shortstop with a Chicago White Sox minor league club. During the off-seasons, he earned a master's degree in physical education

and became the head baseball coach at Arizona State University. After building a 524-173 record at ASU, he went on to manage for the California Angels and Oakland Athletics.

When it comes to major league baseball, Doug Rader ('66) might be Wesleyan's most famous graduate. "A special gleam comes to Horenberger's eyes when discussing Rader," wrote Jim Bennett:

> Rader, from Glenbrook, stands 6-2 and weighs 190, but handles the shortstop chores with the deftness of a man much smaller. . . . "What I especially like about him at the plate is his attitude," Horenberger said. "He can look bad on a certain pitch, but he turns around and fights you on the next pitch. He's a real competitor." (May 10, 1963)

After leading the Titans to a CCI title in 1963 and a second-place finish in 1964, Rader, a gold glove third baseman and a .251 lifetime hitter in 11 major league seasons, played for the Houston Astros, San Diego Padres and Toronto Blue Jays, and later managed the Texas Rangers, Chicago White Sox and California Angels. He hooked on as hitting coach for the expansion Florida Marlins in 1993.

Other Titans who moved beyond the pages of *The Argus* to enjoy big league careers include Bill Conroy, who caught for the Boston Red Sox for five years during the 1940s, and Cal Neeman ('51), who played one year of basketball and two years of baseball for the Chicago Cubs, Pittsburgh Pirates and the Philadelphia Phillies. The Chicago Cubs signed Dick Burwell after his freshman year in 1961 with $58,000 bonus, but he never played in the majors. *The Argus* also followed the college careers of eventual minor league players, including pitchers Harry Grubb ('44), Eddie Moore ('79), Mike McNeely ('85) and Brett Robinson ('87), and catchers Dean Graff ('44) and Mike Brown ('94).

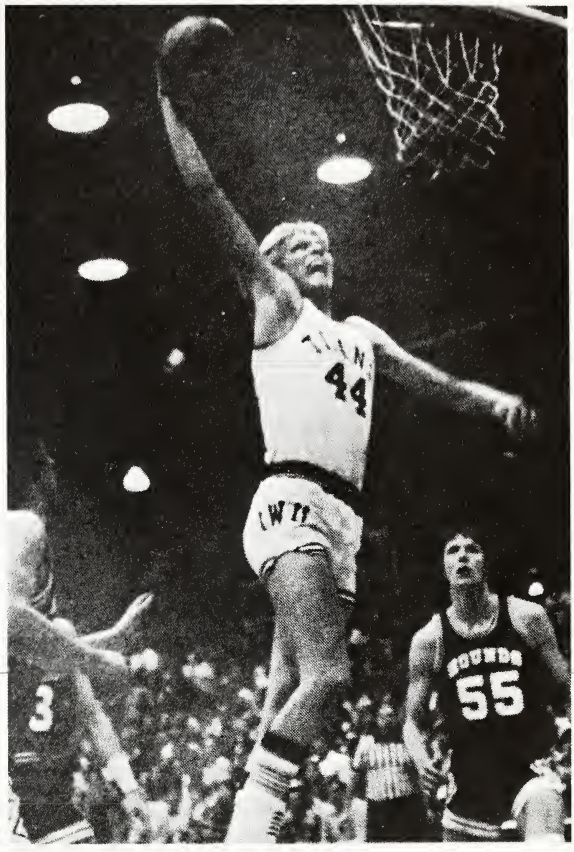
As for IWU's most celebrated sports alumnus, the May 11, 1973 *Argus* reported that "One of the most sought after basketball prospects in Illinois this year was a visitor on the Illinois Wesleyan campus this weekend," and declared that "Six-foot eight-inch Jack Sikma of St. Anne High School could prove to be the much needed big man in the Titan basketball program."

Little did *The Argus* know that the 6'8" Sikma ('77) would become a 7' NBA all-star and the biggest "big man" in Titan sports history. As a high school senior, the St. Anne sensation was chased by Division I colleges like Purdue, Indiana State and the University of Illinois, but Wesleyan caught him largely because Coach Bridges was the first coach to recruit him and, at 6'8", Sikma wanted to make an immediate impact as a big man, according to *The Argus*. Even in a disappointing 67-65 loss to Augustana during Sikma's freshman year, sports editor Pat Cooper ('74) noticed the lanky blonde's ability to both score and play defense:

> The first half was all Augie and all Jack Sikma for the first 15 minutes. Sikma was all over Augie center Bruce Hamming as the 6-10 freshman literally ate Hamming (a pre-season All-American) up. Big Jack held the leading scorer of the Vikings to 22 points, but the 6-11 Hamming made only 9 of 24 shots from the field. . . . Sikma (21 points, 12

rebounds) was outstanding until he got in foul trouble with six minutes left in the game. (January 11, 1974)

After Wesleyan posted a 12-12 mark during his freshman year, Sikma led the Titans to 71 wins, three CCIW titles and three NAIA tournament berths in his next three seasons. Joining Sikma for his junior and senior years was Kansas State transfer Jim Molinari ('77), who would go on to serve as an assistant to DePaul coach Ray Meyer and eventually become head basketball coach at Northern Illinois and Bradley. With both Molinari and Sikma, the NAIA seeded Wesleyan No. 2 in the 1977 Kansas City "dance," but the Titans fell short of a national championship, losing to Henderson State (Arkansas) 87-73 in the quarterfinals. Sikma finished his career as Wesleyan's leading scorer (2,272 points for a 21.2 average) and rebounder (1,405 for a 13.1 average).



Big Jack Sikma slams one home. Sikma was one of 50 candiates (and one of four from the NAIA) to try out for the 1976 United States Olympic basketball team under North Corlina coach Dean Smith.

After graduation, Sikma took time out from his busy NBA schedule in February, 1978 to have his No. 44 jersey retired at Fred Young Fieldhouse. "A lot of guys who play in college never get the chance to play in the NBA," Sikma told *The Argus*. "You play 82 games, three times as many as in a college season, and you have got to be able to take the pounding."

Sikma was voted to the 1978 NBA all-rookie team and earned an NBA championship ring in his second season with the Seattle Supersonics. In his 14-year career with the Sonics and Milwaukee Bucks, Sikma tallied 17,287 points and 10,816 rebounds in 1,107 games. He ranks 38th among all-time NBA scoring leaders, ahead of Magic Johnson and Hall of Famers Bob Cousy and Billy

Cunningham. With statistics like that, it's no shock that Sikma's name and picture continued to appear in *The Argus* any time he was even remotely close to Bloomington-Normal.

Changes in Attitude, Changes in Lattitude

Like the front page of the 1960s and early 1970s, the sports section often reflected the spirit of social change. In 1969, when Bill Russell, a former NBA player-coach and the first black person to manage a team on a full-time basis in any major league sport, addressed the Wesleyan campus, sports editor Tom Wetzel covered the speech for the May 30, 1969 issue. Under the headline "Up For Glory," Wetzel wrote that "A horde of young kids and sports buffs had come to see a great sports figure, Bill Russell, Thursday at the fieldhouse and to hear him speak on sports, but Russell had something else in mind." Instead of talking about sports, Russell discussed "the moral and social aspects of racism, the war in Vietnam and the great potential of the United States." The former Boston Celtic told IWU students that "People are not products. People are people. If you look at me and say I'm black and do not say anything else, then you have cheated me. . . .We have got to change the system. It must be attacked if we are to survive." Russell's remarks made it clear to the Wesleyan community that the Civil Rights Movement was more than slogans or politics; it was a way of dealing with people on a daily basis in all aspects of life—sports included.

Another sixties anomaly—long hair—made the sports pages on April 16, 1971, when a "Spectator" column (author unknown) criticized tennis coach Dennie Bridges for suspending two players until they found a barber. Although the Spectator didn't "necessarily approve of long hair," the writer did try to sarcastically find a correlation between long hair and athletic performance:

> A person who is constantly brushing hair from his eyes will, indeed, not perform to his highest potentialities. . . . [But] our tennis coach also seems to have overlooked one alternative entirely. As has happened for countless years, scientific technology comes to the rescue with an ingenious little discovery called a headband. This handy little gadget, which slips around the human head, permits the wearer to engage in very active pursuits without impairing the vision.

The Spectator also argued that one's hair is one's own business and "like all personal matters, deserves a personal decision." If the athletic department wanted to cut athletes' hair, it also would have to "ban them from fraternity beer parties, throw away their cigarettes and ban them for abusive language," which were "much more detrimental to the school's public image and appearance" than a couple of shaggy tennis players. In other 1970-71 columns, the Spectator questioned Wesleyan's recruiting policies, physical education program—even the cheerleaders.

As the sports section tackled more controversial issues, the quality of writing improved immensely. Sentences and paragraphs became much shorter and writ-

ers now quoted players and coaches instead of making statements without attribution. Not only did this make stories more accurate, but it also took readers inside the locker room for details and opinions they couldn't get from the stands.

Although Sikma may have been the sports section's primary focus from 1974 to 1977, women's varsity tennis and basketball started to see extensive coverage in *The Argus* during those years. When the Lady Titan cagers logged a 13-4 record in just their third season, *The Argus* reported nearly every home game. The newspaper also played a role in voicing women's gripes about athletic funding. In 1974, the athletic department added volleyball to its list of women's varsity sports, but women's sports director and basketball coach Linda Cotter still felt IWU lagged behind other women's sports programs, according to a February 22, 1974 *Argus* story:

> From a survey sent out to other Illinois and midwestern schools of comparable size, Ms. Cotter has found out that, "financially we're below the average of most schools, and in a number of sports we're not the lowest, but we're close to it."

The university set out to rectify the situation by providing increased funding and adding two more varsity sports—softball and track—in 1977. The university also joined the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women so that Lady Titan teams could compete on the national level.

More athletic history was made in 1977, when Illinois Wesleyan joined Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Established in 1974, Division III remains a perfect fit for Wesleyan, because member schools do not give athletic scholarships, and most are small, private institutions. Although many may think the decision to join the NCAA made front-page headlines, *The Argus* ran only a short six-inch story on the sports page, probably because the university maintained membership in both the NCAA and NAIA (competing in the NAIA in basketball until 1982-83). In 1982, women's sports abandoned the AIAW for Division III, and a women's CCIW was established in 1984. The basketball team has competed in the Division III playoffs in 1984, 1986-1988 and 1990-1992, while the baseball team competed in 1978 and 1989. The volleyball and football teams made individual appearances in 1991 and 1992, respectively. Individually, IWU athletes also have participated in the cross country, swimming and indoor and outdoor track and field championships.

In the past five years, the sports section has tried to cover all varsity sports on the back two pages of the paper, but the task has grown exponentially difficult with the establishment of more varsity and club sports. (A club sport is one where the university and students share the sport's costs. Varsity sports are funded solely by the university.) As of 1993, the university sponsors nine men's varsity sports—football, soccer (established in 1983), cross country, basketball, swimming, baseball, golf, track and tennis—and seven women's varsity sports—volleyball, cross country, tennis, basketball, swimming, softball and track. The September 17, 1993 *Argus* reported that women's soccer, although a club team as

Sports

8 October 30, 1992

Augie and Carthage succumb to Titan superiority

Vikings fall: 11-game skid snapped

By Tim Lindberg
Staff Writer

An estimated four thousand fans watched in delight as Wesleyan's Fighting Titans rolled to a 21-0 victory over the Augustana Vikings on Oct. 17.

A four-yard Tom Monken connection to All-American wide receiver Chris Bisaillon for a touchdown with 2:45 left in the second quarter proved to be all the points the Titans would need to win this 1992 Homecoming game.

The triumph could not have been sweeter. It halted a string of eleven straight losses to the Vikings. "We really wanted this one for our seniors," said freshman flanker J.J. Wilczewski.

The team and head coach Norm Eash were in near euphoria as the final gun went off. "It feels great," Eash said. "It's like having five and a half years of pressure off your back."

Wesleyan got off to a quick start as Anthony Houston took the opening kickoff 41 yards to the Augustana 45-yard line. The Titan offense reached the 30-yard line before losing the ball on downs. The teams battled back and forth, but neither team gave up much ground until Augustana took the ball deep into Titan territory with about five minutes to go in the first quarter.

Number 50 . . . Jeff Molitor/IWU News Services
Illinois Wesleyan wide receiver Chris Bisaillon burns Carthage defensive back John Rozek to tie San Francisco 49'er Jerry Rice's NCAA all division touchdown reception record during the Titan's 63-8 massacre last Saturday. Bisaillon added two more touchdowns, establishing the new record at 52 (and counting).

Bisaillon breaks Rice record

By Chris Fusco, Sports Editor

San Francisco 49er Jerry Rice is one of the NFL's best wide receivers, and football fans rarely see the NFL Pro Bowl selection score three touchdowns in one game, let alone in one quarter.

Illinois Wesleyan wide receiver Chris Bisaillon is one of small college football's best receivers, and the difference between himself and Rice is that Bisaillon can catch three touchdown passes in one quarter.

In fact, the senior from Herscher, Ill., accomplished this feat during the first quarter of Wesleyan's 63-8 trouncing of Carthage's Redmen. In the process, Bisaillon broke Rice's NCAA all-division touchdown reception record of 50 catches, set at Division I-AA Mississippi Valley State from 1981-84.

The Titans extended their overall record to 6-0-1 in the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW). Not only are they in sole possession of first place in the conference, but ranked third in the NCAA Division III North Region Poll.

Quarterback Tom Monken found Bisaillon flying across the back of the end zone with 5:48 remaining in the opening quarter for his 51st collegiate end zone celebration. The eight-yard pass also gave Wesley an a 21-0 lead.

"I've been pressing myself to get the record over with," Bisaillon said. "After a while the individual goals get in the way of the team's goals. I'm definitely glad it's over."

So is Wesleyan head football coach Norm Eash.

"Yes, it's a relief that it's over, but our team has been focused on its own goals throughout all the hype," Eash said. "Our team was aware of the record; we just didn't know when it would take place. Winning the CCIW and getting a spot in the [NCAA Division III] playoffs has been our goal from day one."

Eash admitted changing his game plan slightly.

See CARTHAGE page 6

The catch! (1992): With this grab Chris Bisaillon broke the NCAA all-division career touchdown reception record.

of 1994, will be elevated to varsity status by 1995. A men's volleyball club and men's lacrosse club emerged in 1992, joining a co-ed sailing club. With the emergence of so many competitive sports, intramural coverage has become a thing of the past.

Bob Warth ('92) had the distinction of reporting a number of great moments in recent Wesleyan sports history. In 1990, Warth followed the basketball team's 22-8 roller coaster ride to the NCAA Division III quarterfinals and Malik Jones' ('90) Division III indoor national championship in the 55-meter high hurdles. He also covered the start of what would eventually become a four-year NCAA all-division record for touchdown receptions. Back on November 3, 1989, Warth observed that

> Chris Bisaillon has made an immediate impact offensively. He leads the team with 33 receptions, 1004 all-purpose yards and 42 points. "We knew that Bisaillon was a good football player coming in, and he's proved to everyone that he is and much more," [IWU football coach

> Norm] Eash said. . . . "We're just going to expect bigger and better things each year."

Eash's quote turned out to be more of an understatement than a sports cliché. Bisaillon ('93) gained national notoriety when he broke San Francisco 49er and NFL all-pro receiver Jerry Rice's NCAA all-division touchdown-pass reception record of 50 catches for a career. Bisaillon broke the record his senior year, finishing with 55 receptions. That year, the Titans reached post-season play for the first time since the Corn Bowl, won a playoff game and reached the playoff quarterfinals.

Bisaillon's record-breaking performance even prompted a congratulatory phone call from Rice, which sports editor Chris Fusco ('94) covered for the November 6, 1992 *Argus*. For a few years, Bisaillon had heard the name Jerry Rice a countless number of times, but during the conversation, the tables were turned:

> "I've been reading up on you, man," Rice told Bisaillon in his seven minute congratulatory phone call. . . . "You must be working towards something really hard to beat. . . . Reporters have come to me asking I've heard about this guy who broke my record. I told them if this guy can dedicate himself like I did, there's no telling what his potential might be."

To this, Bisaillon replied: "Why don't you tell your coaches that? I'd be happy to meet them." Although Bisaillon never hooked up with an NFL team, he used his credentials as the Champion U.S.A. Division III football student-athlete of the year and GTE Academic All-American to land a job with Van Kampen Merritt, a Chicago investment firm.

Although Wesleyan sports and *Argus* sports coverage have undergone many changes over the century, some things have remained the same. Ninety-seven years after the Illinois Intercollegiate contest, a sports column by Mike Estwick ('94) complained about Wesleyan students' lack of school spirit:

> Now, don't get me wrong, I don't mean that the crowd should be loud and vociferous every single minute of the game, but the crowd can be that extra man on the field. . . . Come on Wesleyland, let's get some noise going in the stands at the next home game and show the opposition where the you comes from in IWU.

Some things never change.

CHAPTER 10

Mentors

Little is known about early *Argus* faculty advisers, except that they made sure the newspaper "didn't get out of line," according to 1935-36 editor Everett Melby. "Outside of that, we didn't see them too often."

Because of that minimal contact, the newspaper did not even begin keeping a record of advisers until 1917, and even that list is incomplete. University catalogues between 1900 and 1917 indicate that a number of professors—including Robert Steele (Latin), Robert Graham (chemistry), Francis Marion Austin (Latin and Greek), Wilbert T. Ferguson (French, German and Greek), Albert Farrington Caldwell (English) and Charles A. Eggert (French and history)—served on a committee that monitored campus publications. *The Argus* reported that English department head Pearl Cliffe Somerville served as adviser from 1917-23 and speech instructor James J. Fiderlick advised the newspaper in 1923. English professor Ethel A. Wold handled the apparently still-perfunctory duties from 1924-29.

The most active adviser, according to 1931-32 editor Charles Virgil Martin, was not a faculty member at all, but a former Wesleyan business manager and publicity director. Yet, Nate Crabtree ('28) apparently played a significant role in the newspaper's history.

As a student, Crabtree's classmates elected him Wesleyan's "most representative male student" at the 1927 frolic—an event he helped organize to purchase new uniforms for the marching band. "A movement to clothe the band in dandy new uniforms certainly is worth supporting," Crabtree wrote in the December 8, 1927 *Argus*. "What do you say, Gang? Let's go!" Crabtree's other campus activities included everything but *The Argus*. He was head cheerleader, a member of the YMCA and secretary-treasurer of the Coffee Club. Crabtree also held membership in Sigma Chi Fraternity and Pi Kappa Delta, the honorary debating fraternity.

Crabtree's power of persuasion and "rah-rah Wesleyan" spirit coerced Martin into becoming editor.

"By far, *Argus* editor was the most time-consuming occupation a student could have," Martin said. "With most activities, you relaxed for a while and then concentrated on certain events, but with *The Argus*, those events happened every day.

"Naturally, no one on the 1930 staff wanted the position. One day, Nate

Journal Job Printing, better known to generations of Argus *editors as Gummerman's. For years, the print shop was the unofficial office of* The Argus.

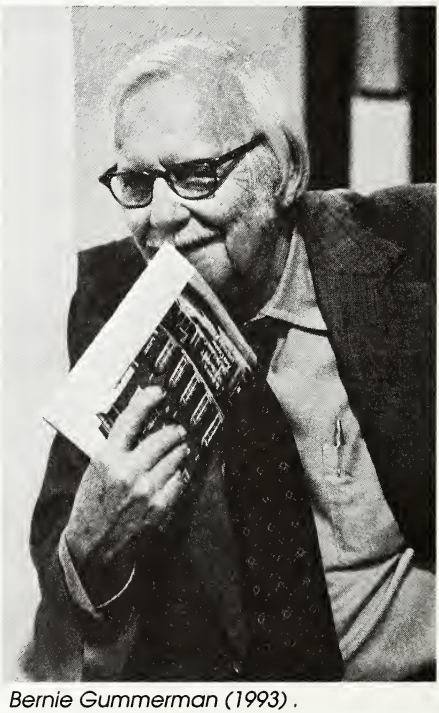
walked into the office and said, 'Somebody's got to buckle down and become a leader.'" Crabtree half-pointed to Martin when making his speech, so Martin reluctantly volunteered for the job. Outside of Martin's recollections, little is known about Crabtree's tenure as *Argus* adviser. Although the university catalog listed seven professors as serving on the publications committee from 1929-33, *The Argus* did not recognize any of them as its adviser.

Gummerman Printing Office: Thanks for the Memories

Over the next 30 years, students were wary of advice that came by way of the university. But Bernie Gummerman, with his slicked-back hair and laid-back way of giving advice, was just what students needed. Gummerman's pre-1900s downtown print shop became their unofficial classroom and *Argus* office.

"Without Bernie Gummerman, there wouldn't have been an *Argus*," said 1956-57 editor Bob Page ('58). "No editor had a better friend than Bernie. He was always there to give you a hand. I knew if I made any grammatical or spelling mistakes, he would catch them. He loved Wesleyan and he loved *The Argus*."

From the mid-1930s to the 1950s, English department head William E. Schultz, philosophy professor Ralph E. Browns and speech professor Charles Major served as *Argus* advisers, according to former editors and university catalogs. In addition to these faculty members, 1948 editor Alice Stanbery ('49) informally advised *The Argus* when she worked as director of Wesleyan's news bureau from 1956-58. Despite the faculty and Stanbery's presence, when former editors from 1930 to 1960 were asked, "Who advised the newspaper?" they overwhelmingly responded, "Bernie Gummerman."



Bernie Gummerman (1993).

Bernie's father, John Baptist Gummerman, acquired *The Argus* printing account in 1933, two years after Bernie finished attending Wesleyan. The print shop at 217 E. Front St. was an appropriate place for *The Argus* to be printed, since Bernie had strong ties to IWU and was involved in Sigma Chi alumni activities. When John and Bernie started printing *The Argus,* they were already publishing *The Bloomington Journal*, a German-language weekly (since 1912). When the *Journal* ceased publication in the mid-1940s, the busi-

ness changed its name from Journal Job Printing to Gummerman Printing Office, and concentrated on printing Illinois State University's *Vidette*, all four Bloomington-Normal high school newspapers, and publications for State Farm and GTE.

"No other print shops in town could or would have wanted to monkey around with two college papers and the other things," Bernie recalled. "They kept us pretty busy, and there wasn't much pay involved. We had a hard time keeping things running financially."

Perhaps the reason the print shop had financial problems was because it was always so generous to schools and non-profits. Even though the business had a firm lock on the account, Bernie purchased advertisements in *The Argus* on a regular basis and worked with students on layout, content, headline writing and writing style—free of charge.

"*The Argus* didn't have much of an office on campus for a long time, so the kids came down here to write their stories and do their layout work," Bernie said. "Things would have been a lot different if we weren't around."

In what editors nicknamed the "Gummerman classroom," Bernie, "Bloomington's only white-haired hippie sage," as 1972-74 editor Dave Gathman called him, taught the Argusites basic layout principles, copy editing techniques and pyramid style organization (where stories are structured so that a summary of important facts comes first and details next). As a result, stories became more concise than in the 1920s and contained fewer spelling and grammatical mistakes. Pages became more attractive, with stories no longer running down single columns under individual headlines.

When students didn't see Bernie at the print shop, they saw him on campus. He occasionally moonlighted as an *Argus* photographer (taking pictures was his second love, next to wife Hilda), served as an unofficial adviser for Gamma Upsilon (the campus media honorary society) and had his own photo exhibit at Presser Hall for three weeks in 1942. He was so active that "Bernie should have been given faculty status," said 1947-48 editor Bob Holmes.

Bernie's son Kurt, who joined the family business in 1964, carried on his father's tradition of informally advising the newspaper. "If we saw something wrong, we'd tell the editor to consider changing it," he said. "Over the years we've weeded out some bad language and, at times, we've suggested layout changes to the dismay or delight of many editors."

Kurt added that some "very meticulous editors" have presided over *The Argus*, but no issue has ever been brought to the print shop without needing corrections. The worst problems arose when layouts didn't fit where students had placed them on grid sheets, or when students destroyed the galley proofs on which stories were copy edited and prepared for layout. Without those proofs, section editors had to guess the length of stories, which resulted in a copyfitters nightmare.

Despite such problems, Kurt and Bernie recall only one issue that was more than a few minutes late. In the early 1940s, photo engraving plates were held up

at a plant in Indianapolis, causing a one-day delay. (The print shop later purchased its own photo engraving facilities to avoid future problems.)

The last *Argus* printed by Gummerman's is indicative of the service the 81-year-old business provided. As Kurt gave the final issue of the 1992-93 school year one more check before sending it to press, a possible mistake in a front-page photo caption caught his eye. The names of the men breaking ground for Wesleyan's $22.8 million science building didn't look right, so he called *The Argus* office around 2 p.m. to see if the staff had made a mistake. The managing editor answered the phone, but said the caption was originally written that way, and added that she didn't have time to check it, since she was typing a class assignment that was due at 2 p.m. She called the sports editor, who knew IWU's Public Relations office would have the correct names, but he too was frantically typing an assignment for his last class of the year. Kurt and his eight-person staff liked to start printing the 2,300 copies by 3 or 4 p.m. if the newspaper was to be distributed on time, and time was running short. To print, or not to print? It could only have been a question for someone as dedicated as the Gummermans.

Knowing that other staff members were bogged down with their studies, Kurt left his office and made the five-minute trip to Wesleyan—make that 10, since the only parking space was in the freshmen lot. He located an informed source in the Public Relations office and learned that his hunch was correct. The men in the picture were actually Edward B. Rust ('72), State Farm Insurance Company president and chairman of the Campaign for Illinois Wesleyan, and Marvin D. Bower ('45), IWU Board of Trustees Development Committee chairman and chairman of the board for State Farm—not E. Hugh Henning and Dr. Robert Reardon, as the caption stated.

As Evelyn Chapel's clock struck three, Kurt headed back to his office to insert the new caption and finish the year's final issue, which hit the newsstands on time that evening. And while students read of the latest events, unaware of the latest Gummerman heroics, *Argus* staffers must have heaved a sigh of relief.

"When someone messes up, we understand," Kurt said. "*The Argus* comes second to classes and college life. In the past, we've come to campus for pictures, galley proofs and advertisements, and we've always tried to make everything work."

Little did Wesleyan know it was the last time a member of the Gummerman family would "make everything work" for Wesleyan's weekly. The office permanently closed its doors in the summer of 1993, with *The Argus* as its last full-time school newspaper account. The rise of computer desktop publishing had made printing a tough financial venture, and Kurt noticed business lagging since 1988. Technology had finally caught up with a business that had survived three times longer than the average family business.

And with the close of Gummerman Printing Office went part of Bloomington culture. The 118-year-old brick building oozed with atmosphere, with its creaky hardwood floors, old-time tables and chairs and museum-like collection of printing presses. For 60 out of 100 years, Gummerman's has been a

part of *The Argus*. When the paper didn't have an office, the print shop was home. When the staff screwed up, John, Bernie or Kurt tried to solve the problem. In today's profit-driven world of businesses, Gummerman's was as old-fashioned as their storefront, focusing on the product and worrying about the bill later.

Meanwhile, Back on Campus

Even journalism courses, which had existed since 1923, took a back seat to Bernie. Former editors either did not recall the courses or dismissed them as insignificant. "There were only one or two courses, and you had to go through the English department to take them," said 1942-43 editor Beth Mackey Stiffler. "Bernie taught us indirectly."

Judging by course descriptions, *The Argus* acted as the main journalism laboratory for students wishing to enter the newspaper business. The 1925 catalog only offered a two-semester "News Writing" course where students spent one semester learning "practical training in collecting and writing news" and the other devoting time "to laboratory work on *The Argus*." This two-semester course continued under the names "Journalism" and "Journalistic Writing" until 1943, when the university eliminated journalism courses from the curriculum. Thanks to Bernie, the change had no visible effect on *The Argus*.

Wesleyan's World War II Navy cadet unit may have left campus on July 27, 1944, but it left behind Milton Cook, its aeronautics instructor, to advise *The Argus* in 1944. Cook, who "had experience in press and public relations work at Amherst" College in Massachusetts, according to the September 13, 1944 *Argus*, assisted in admissions and public relations work and taught English courses. For unknown reasons, he left Illinois Wesleyan in 1946.

The March 5, 1947 *Argus* announced that Professor Elmo Scott Watson, chairman of the Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism, had been hired to teach two journalism courses as well as write the history of the university for its centennial celebration in 1950. "The acquisition of Prof. Watson's services has been approved one month after the late Pres. [William E.] Shaw's promise to engage an outstanding instructor of jourcalism [sic] with actual newspaper experience," reported *The Argus*. The new *journalism* professor must indeed have taken sic when he saw the spelling error.

During the three years Watson taught at Wesleyan, however, he did not serve as *Argus* advisor. George Allison, ('51), editor of the 1950 *Argus*, recalled that Watson used to take the Alton express train down to Wesleyan every Monday morning, teach one class—Journalistic Writing in first semester and Feature Writing in second semester—and take the train back to Northwestern Monday night. When he worked on *The Illinois Wesleyan Story, 1850-1950*, Watson arrived on Saturday and would spend the weekend researching.

"Watson was one of the best journalism professors in the nation, and it was a great experience to learn from him," Allison said. "Almost everybody who worked on *The Argus* took his courses, and he tightened up our reporting style. He taught us the difference between news and feature writing and helped us

write more creative headlines."

However, when Watson left Wesleyan in 1952, the university again canceled journalism courses and relied on Bernie Gummerman and English department faculty advisers Joseph Meyers, H. Vail Deale and Oliver C. Bridwell to keep a watchful eye over the newspaper. By the middle of the decade, interest in journalism seemed to be at an all-time low, with issues shrinking to only four pages. A February 3, 1955 editorial—more a cry for help—called for journalism courses at Wesleyan to make *The Argus* a better publication:

> The value of amateur and professional journalism should be obvious to students and instructors alike. Out of the ranks of newspaper men and women emerge all sorts of minor and major politicos, press agents, novelists, labor leaders, advertising specialists, alcoholics, university professors and other such colorful members of society. . . . The primary duty of a university is to foster free and accurate thinking in the minds of its students. This obligation can be fulfilled by a critical campus newspaper aided by a competent department of journalism.

The university responded to the editorial by offering one newswriting course taught by an unknown instructor in 1956-57. Despite the lone course, 1956-57 editor Bob Page said that he never took journalism at Illinois Wesleyan, nor does he remember the university ever offering a course.

Bob Page: From Editor to Mentor

"The reason I came to Wesleyan as opposed to a journalism school was that the editor of the Springfield *State Journal* told me he'd teach me everything I'd need to know about journalism," said Page, who started working for the *State Journal* (now the *State Journal-Register*) sports section as a high school sophomore for 80 cents an hour.

As a Wesleyan sophomore, the talented Page regularly covered University of Illinois football games for the *State Journal.* He even covered a 1957 World Series game between the New York Yankees and Milwaukee Braves, as well as major league baseball's All-Star game one summer for the *State Journal. Pantagraph* sports editor Fred Young ('15) used him to cover high school, Wesleyan and Illinois State athletics.

The Argus did not become a priority for Page until the administration offered to pay him 25 percent of his $600 tuition to become editor. (Some editors of the 1930s and 1940s said that they received full tuition to edit *The Argus.*) In fact, had the administration not begged Page to become editor of *The Argus* during his junior year (because nobody else wanted to), the future executive vice president of United Press International and president-publisher of both the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Boston Herald* would never have written a word for the Wesleyan paper.

"I don't remember any specifics about the job, except that I did most of the writing and layout work by myself; not too many students were interested in journalism," he said. "I had a lot of fun taking strong positions on things, and my editorials didn't exactly endear me to the administration." Page said his

opinions irritated the dean of students, who once tried to fire him. When Page told President Holmes that he'd gladly resign, Holmes told him, "Go back to work. I like what you're doing."

From Illinois Wesleyan, Page found work at the Des Moines, Iowa, UPI bureau in 1960. By 1969, he was working in London as vice president of UPI's European, Middle East and African bureaus. Three years later, he moved to Hong Kong as UPI vice president for Asia, with responsibilities for an area from Japan to Afghanistan.

Page's rise to UPI prominence blazed a trail for other Wesleyan graduates. Former *Argus* editors Bob Berg ('65), Jim Dorsey, Bill Joyce and managing editor Jon Sweet ('67) all worked as editors or reporters for UPI in 1969. Wesleyan awarded Page with an honorary doctorate in 1986, and he served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1986 to 1992.

Moody Lays the Foundation for Journalism

In 1958, the university hired Blaine D. Moody fresh out of graduate school to establish a journalism minor through the English department. Moody designed courses in Newswriting and Reporting, Advanced News Reporting, History of American Journalism, News Editing and Principles of Ethics of Journalism and also served as faculty adviser to *The Argus*.

"I tried to help make the paper more professional and stress the basics," Moody said. "Back then, we were still worshipping the gods of objectivity and pyramid style, but I think I laid a foundation for the future." He credited editor Dennis Stark ('59), the first *Argus* editor-in-chief to serve two terms (1957-59), with building the staff and organizing the paper.

"Before I arrived, editors always used to lay out the paper at the print shop and let Bernie put the whole thing together," Moody said. "I told Dennis to bring the paper here and lay it out in the office. There were basic lay out patterns the staff had never learned."

Moody's techniques and Stark's leadership proved a fine combination, as *The Argus* was one of three newspapers in Illinois to win a first-place certificate from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in 1958. The paper also won a first-place honor rating from the Associated Collegiate Press for the first time in more than 10 years.

The only conflict Moody remembers between students and administration came with assistant editor Ken Qualkenbush's ('60) gossip column, 'Bees Are Buzzin.'" The column poked fun at the administration and faculty with lines such as, "Some year at Wesleyan, we should all take an all-school sabbatical—and do something academic," or "Ya know what this place needs to help school spirit? A good, drunken pep rally."

"Wesleyan was a really conservative place, and administrators didn't like it if you printed the word 'alcohol' in the newspaper," Moody said. However, Moody continued to let Qualkenbush write the column, because he did not want students to think he was censoring Wesleyan's student press.

Another conflict took place when Qualkenbush competed with Larry Uffelman ('60) for the 1959-60 editor-in-chief position. When Student Senate voted to reject the Senate Publication Committee's nomination of Uffelman as editor by a 13-12 margin, *The Argus* devoted two front-page stories, an editorial and four letters to the editor to protest the petition denial. (Six of the publications committee's nine members were faculty members.)

Stark backed Qualkenbush for the editorship because of his previous *Argus* work. Uffelman, who had never worked on *The Argus*, was Moody's choice for the job, largely because he was assistant state editor of the *Galesburg Register Mail* during the summer of 1958, according to *The Argus*. (Moody suggested that Qualkenbush's buzzing gossip column was another reason he backed Uffelman.) Despite Uffelman's inexperience, Senate approved him by a 13-12 margin after a second vote. Qualkenbush went on to become editor of the 1960 *Wesleyana*.

After the 1959-60 academic year, Moody left Wesleyan to take a job at his alma mater, Bowling Green State University. In 1959, the University hired *Pantagraph* reporter Tom Gumbrell to teach the journalism courses Moody had established. Gumbrell was a natural for the position because he had covered Wesleyan during the early 1950s and knew faculty members and administrators. "There wasn't a lot of interest in journalism; I only had around eight to 10 people in each class," Gumbrell said.

Since Gumbrell worked full time at *The Pantagraph* while teaching at Wesleyan, Paul Hessert, a religion professor, advised the newspaper from 1960-61, and Edwin C. Carpenter, a speech professor, advised in 1962.

"I really have no idea how I was selected to be *Argus* adviser," Hessert said. "I acted as a liaison between the administration and the students, but we never had any incidents where stories needed to be canceled."

Thomas Batell, an English professor who served as *Argus* adviser in 1963, also did not recall how he received the position. "I guess I was the only warm body available," he said. "I just told the editor, 'you know what you're doing, so use your best judgment.' The staff wasn't very militant, and didn't shake their fists at the world."

Donald Reid, Wesleyan's director of development, assumed the advisership in 1964. Reid, who had worked a year with the Kansas City *Star*, was the first adviser since Moody to critique the paper on a weekly basis. He found the advising job "enjoyable because the staff was so responsible."

Wesleyan's journalism program underwent changes after the 1963-64 school year, when Gumbrell left to accept the position of city editor at *The Milwaukee Sentinel*. Replacing him would be a professor that would go on to advise *The Argus* for 20 years.

"Hand-out Harv" Stands Up for *The Argus*

Fed up. Those two words appropriately summed up English and journalism professor Harvey Beutner's attitude toward college newspapers when he came to Illinois Wesleyan in 1964.

But when he left in 1988, Beutner's name was as synonymous with *The Argus* as it was with the Illinois College Press Association, which he helped re-establish in 1983. The 24 years in between tell how Beutner successfully balanced the roles of faculty adviser and advocate for a student free press.

Beutner earned two master's degrees from Northwestern University—a journalism degree in 1951 and an English degree in 1955—and worked as a reporter for the *Danville Commercial News* before beginning his love-hate affair with college newspapers at Florida's Stetson University in 1957.

That year, Stetson's southern Baptist administration regularly censored its student newspaper, *The Reporter.* When university officials temporarily suspended *The Reporter* for printing an article which criticized the administration, the staff took a copy of the newspaper, placed it in a coffin and buried it in front of the school's bell tower. The university promptly buried the newspaper for the rest of the year and called on Beutner to resurrect it in 1958.

"I ended up putting the whole paper out by myself," recalled Beutner, for only four editors served on *The Reporter's* re-vamped staff. "I stayed up all night copy editing and worked the next day with the printer, who wasn't very helpful."

After leaving Stetson, Beutner worked for Chicago's Follett Publishing Company from 1960 to 1964 as an author and editor of social studies textbooks. He came to Wesleyan in 1964 with a vow that he would do no advising.

"I wasn't going to write, censor or copy edit anything; I'd gladly offer advice on journalistic ethics and values, but I wasn't going to interfere with production of *The Argus*," Beutner said.

Thanks to Reid, Beutner was able to prolong the inevitable. After teaching English and journalism for two years, Wesleyan granted him a two-year leave of absence to write and study in England. (He received his Ph.D. in English from Northwestern in 1967.) When he returned in 1968, the university asked him to replace Reid, who left to become the University of Idaho's director of development.

"No one else in the English department wanted the job, and I didn't know if I wanted it either," Beutner said. "When I first came to Illinois Wesleyan, *The Argus* was a PR vehicle, an image-projector. I disagreed with that. As long as students were responsible and honest, I felt the newspaper should be independent of the university."

Beutner followed guidelines established by the association of College Media Advisers, of which he was a member:

> The adviser is not a censor, nor a copywriter nor a re-write person, nor an editorial writer. The adviser does not lay out pages, nor edit any copy before it goes to the printer, nor act as an editor of the publications. He advises and teaches these skills, but after giving guidance and the best possible judgment, defends—and observes—totally the right of the staff to make the final decisions. (CMA, *Ethics and Responsibilities of Advising College Publications*)

Beutner said that newly inducted President Robert Eckley agreed with the CMA credo, but that didn't mean the rest of the administration and faculty

accepted the free press concept—especially during the late 1960s, when Vietnam, civil rights struggles and student protest all had profound effects on college campuses. "Students challenged teachers a lot more and didn't accept our answers unless they questioned and demonstrated them," Beutner said. "They put a lot of pressure on us, which made us sharper, too."

It's no April Fool: For 20 years, The Argus *provided Harvey Beutner with more than a few fits of "Agony" (1977).*

In his first few years with *The Argus*, Beutner felt pressure from all sides, especially when 1968 *Argus* editors asked permission to cover previously private faculty meetings. When editors showed up at the faculty meeting where the vote to let them in was being discussed, tempers flared on both sides.

"If the faculty had voted to exclude editors, things would have been a lot different for *The Argus*," said Beutner, recalling how he and history professor Paul Bushnell stood up for the concept of a free press. "The vote was 37 to 33 [to admit the editors], and one faculty member was so upset he stormed out of the meeting."

An October 11, 1968 *Argus* editorial told how the move set up a relationship of trust between the newspaper and the new president. "We heartily support . . . Eckley's belief in learning through asserted responsibility and the long-run value of the free press," wrote *The Argus*. "We will try to minimize distortion; we ask the faculty to display patience and apply the tenants of its profession."

Although Beutner made sure *The Argus* would not become another Stetson *Reporter,* the free press battle was just one problem he faced. Editors felt more comfortable working with Bernie and Kurt Gummerman, and Beutner did not know how to relate to the staff. To make up for this lack of communication, Beutner "worked as much with the students as I could in journalism classes, critiquing *The Argus* [as well as other publications] and discussing layout, content and technique."

The seven-course journalism program Beutner implemented featured courses in Newswriting and Reporting, Advanced News Reporting and Feature Writing, History of American Journalism, Copyreading and News Editing, an indepen-

dent study course in Press Law and Ethics, and a Journalism Internship. Beutner said that the class he enjoyed teaching the most was Newswriting and Reporting, because it incorporated all aspects of journalism, including interviewing, writing style, press law and ethics. Students named him "Hand-out Harv" for the excessive number of Xerox copies he distributed in class. He also made students type out in-class assignments on Royal manual typewriters to simulate actual newsrooms.

To supplement classwork, Beutner helped establish journalism, public relations and communications internships with *The Pantagraph*, Sterling's *Daily Gazette*, WJBC Radio and State Farm Insurance Company. He also helped students coordinate internships outside the Twin Cities at WGN Radio/Television in Chicago and at the *City Paper* in Washington D.C. More than 85 students participated in an internship during his tenure.

Despite Beutner's journalistic wisdom, editors didn't always practice what he taught. For example, the 1968 *Argus* started a "police blotter," a record of off-campus arrests, even though Beutner opposed the idea because a weekly newspaper could not monitor charges and acquittals on a regular basis. Some of the students listed in the first blotter, which appeared on page eight of the April 18, 1969 issue, happened to be black, and a number of students claimed the blotter was racially motivated. It never appeared again.

A more serious incident occurred on December 5, 1975 when the page-one story "WESN thief arrested, released" implied that David Cannon, a former Wesleyan student, was guilty of stealing $425 worth of missing WESN radio equipment:

> Allegedly, while employed by WESN, Cannon took the equipment to be repaired and failed to return it. . . . After his arrest, he was released on a $4,000 bond. Arrangements were made by Cannon and his immediate family and the president of the Student Senate to return the equipment, a Pioneer AM-FM receiver. Upon the return of the equipment charges were dropped.

"I knew something had to be done when the student's father called me and was very upset," Beutner said. "I've only had to tell the editors to write two retractions and apologies for the newspaper in my tenure, and that was one of them." Beutner made sure that next week's front page "Retraction and Apology" stated, "David Cannon has not been convicted of any crime, and all charges have been dropped" (December 12, 1975).

Other low points in Beutner's advising career came between 1973-75 when seven different editors ran *The Argus*. When 1977-78 editor Thomas Richards ('78) wrote, "In recent years, *The Argus* has become a burden. It has become a financial liability that does not deserve the funding which it receives," the staff vowed to bring the newspaper respectability. And, for the first time, they invited Beutner to the office to critique it.

"I can't say enough good things about Dr. Beutner," said 1977-78 managing

editor and 1978-79 editor Ann Orth Nussbaum, who, despite being an English education major, took all of Beutner's journalism classes. "He generously gave up his free time to tell us what was wrong and right about each issue. And with his guidance, *The Argus* really started to look like a newspaper."

The Associated Collegiate Press agreed, awarding *The Argus* a First Class honor rating for the 1978-79 academic year for the first time since the early 1970s. With Beutner's guidance, *The Argus* received ACP's First Class honor rating or its highest honor, the All-American rating, on many occasions from 1978-88.

Beutner also compiled a 79-page sabbatical report entitled "Journalism at Illinois Wesleyan University (1964-1988)." In addition to reporting the whereabouts of 116 students who had taken his journalism classes, the study offered suggestions on ways to improve the journalism curriculum, *The Argus*, WESN and the *Wesleyana.* His suggestions included awarding class credit for off-campus internships, inviting professional journalists to speak in the classroom and placing a greater emphasis on interviewing techniques.

After 20 years of *Argus* advising, Beutner was a tough act to follow. His replacement, James Plath, recalled that some faculty members stopped him in the halls to ask if he was the "new" Harvey Beutner, while others took to calling him "Harvey Beutner Jr." Plath, a feature writer for the short-lived *Milwaukee Weekly* and editor-publisher of *Clockwatch Review*, began teaching in fall 1988, redesigning the three existing journalism courses to place a greater emphasis on writing and on assignments that simulated field conditions.

With *The Argus*, he followed the same CMA guidelines as Beutner, tailoring his role to meet the needs of each staff. Some have asked him to hold mini-workshops on writing, layout techniques and ad sales. "One year, the staff was in such a perpetual state of crisis, I put in 14 hours a week. Another year, things ran so smoothly that I only spent three hours a week critiquing the paper," he said.

Plath added that some of the best investigative reporting never makes it into the newspaper. In one case, a student came to *The Argus* to complain that students were forced to pay higher travel costs for a short-term class. The student alleged that the registrar's office used the same travel agent for all university business, rather than trying to get the cheapest rate. *Argus* reporters talked with the university's travel agent, airline companies, other universities, students who took the trip and students from previous travel courses. "They did a pretty thorough investigation," Plath said, "and they learned a lot in the process. But in the end, they learned that it was a 'non-story' because the original complaint could not be corroborated."

Sometimes those "non-stories" are frustrating for students. "They hear the rumors, they read between the lines, and it drives them crazy that they can't pry open the lid that's trying to keep things quiet," Plath said. "Then, my advice is simply, 'let it go.'"

The Results of Good Mentoring

Former *Argus* editors have gone on to make successful names for themselves both in and out of journalism. The 1992 IWU Alumni Directory reported 37 alumni working for a newspaper or magazine, 45 working in public relations or marketing and eight in broadcast journalism. In addition to Bob Page's UPI rise to journalistic prominence, 1937-38 editor Charlotte Fitzhenry Robling, a former Associated Press reporter, was one of two women to earn a prestigious Nieman Journalism Fellowship from Harvard University in 1945. No woman had won the fellowship since its inception in 1938.

After leaving Illinois Wesleyan in 1935, 1931-32 editor Charles Virgil Martin went on to become the first Carson Pirie Scott and Co. chairman of the board not to be a member of the founding families. Martin, who also worked as chairman of the Illinois Public Aid Commission and director of the Indianapolis Community Fund, has developed a reputation for championing minority and urban causes. Elizabeth Wood ('20), editor of the 1919-20 *Argus*, went on to become the founding director of the Chicago Housing Authority and a pioneer in the field of public housing. Harry W. McPherson, *Argus* editor for the 1905-06 school year, became President of Illinois Wesleyan University, serving from 1932-37.

In 1993-94, though Illinois Wesleyan still has no journalism major or minor, the tradition of solid journalism continues. Fresh out of Wesleyan, David Moll began covering murders and other front-page news for *The Times-Press* in Streeter, before moving on to the Peoria *Journal-Star*. And Bill Wills, managing editor for *The Pantagraph*, hired Darlene Ostrowski before she even graduated, choosing her over working journalists and "j-school" graduates.

An Expanded Readership

Many Wesleyan students do not realize that *The Argus* is read, critiqued and, yes, even respected outside the Bloomington-Normal area. As a longtime member of the Illinois College Press Association, member of the Associated Collegiate Press from 1937-89 and former member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the newspaper has won numerous awards for writing, photography, layout, graphics and general excellence.

The Argus began its relationship with the Illinois College Press Association in 1922, when it participated in ICPA's fall and spring conventions with other colleges and universities from across the state. As at today's ICPA conventions, students listened to professional journalists, participated in writing and editing workshops and competed for awards. In 1928, *The Argus* won first place out of 16 colleges for "overall competency," prompting *The Pantagraph* to call it "one of the most outstanding college newspapers in the state." Wesleyan became so involved with ICPA that it hosted the 20th annual convention in 1942, and 1946-47 editor Barbara Browns Mathis ('47) was elected ICPA President. She did not get to preside over any conventions, however, since war forced ICPA to cancel

the convention (which was to be held at the University of Illinois). "People were trying to conserve gas, and traveling was discouraged," she said.

In 1937, *The Argus* joined the Associated Collegiate Press, which provided a critiquing service in addition to a yearly convention and awards ceremony. The newspaper maintained joint membership in both ACP and ICPA until 1952, when its masthead listed membership in ACP only. Jim Ridenour, editor of the 1952-53 *Argus*, does not remember paying dues to ICPA and said he assumes colleges simply lost interest and the society quietly died. Despite the loss of ICPA, ACP membership provided ample opportunity for feedback and recognition. In addition to receiving numerous "first class" ratings, which indicated "an outstanding college newspaper," many *Argus* staffs earned ACP's highest honor, the coveted "All-American" rating.

In January, 1971, *The Argus* sponsored but (as host) did not participate in an ACP-style weekend journalism conference. The only disappointing aspect of the contest, according to 1970-72 editor Tom Wetzel, was that the rival college newspaper in town—Illinois State's *Vidette*—came away victorious. But Wetzel's staff did all right elsewhere. In 1970-71, *The Argus* was one of only two newspapers in the nation to win the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's "Medalist" rating. On a rating scale of 1,000 points, *The Argus* scored 987, which prompted one judge to write on his critique, "this is more than a student newspaper; this is a professional newspaper." ACP awarded *The Argus* "All-American" status that same year.

In 1982, college newspaper advisers from across Illinois saw a need for state newspapers to convene, exchange ideas and offer awards of their own. With this in mind, Harry Theil and Jim Munz of Illinois State, John David Reed of Eastern Illinois, E. Mayer Maloney, Jr. of the University of Illinois and IWU's own Harvey Beutner set out to revive ICPA. After a year of phone calls, meetings and hard work, a new and improved ICPA convened for the first time at Eastern Illinois in 1983.

Affiliated with the Illinois Press Association, ICPA currently sponsors a Chicago weekend convention and awards ceremony each February, with the *Chicago Tribune* providing major support. Students look forward to the annual convention as a reward for a year's hard work, and as a way of reviving themselves for the "stretch run." There, they can commiserate with other college journalists and rub elbows with professional journalists from both the *Tribune* and *Chicago Sun-Times*. Eastern Illinois University's John M. Ryan currently serves as ICPA president, IWU's James Plath serves as 1st vice-president, and Sangamon State University's Deborah Landis serves as 2nd vice president.

Gamma Upsilon

On their résumés, *Argus* editors are often able to list membership in Gamma Upsilon, the honorary media fraternity. Although the national fraternity disbanded in 1962, Wesleyan's Illinois Alpha Chapter—the second chapter founded in the nation—still operates as of the 1993-94 academic year.

Perhaps Wesleyan's Gamma Upsilon chapter survives because long time Wesleyan English department head William E. Schultz co-founded the fraternity while teaching at Culver Stockton College in 1923, according to the December 18, 1935 *Argus*. When Schultz came to Wesleyan in 1934, the university felt that a chapter of Gamma Upsilon would "foster an interest in college student publications" and "stimulate interest in all phases of undergraduate literary work that finds its way into print." When the chapter was officially installed in 1935, Wesleyan's newspaper said that it offered a "triple innovation" for fraternities of its type, in that

> it is co-educational, unlike several organizations of a similar type, being open on equal terms to men and women who have achieved success in their chosen student activity; it is co-publication, electing students from any publication properly approved (newspaper, annual, literary monthly, or comic magazine); and it is co-staff being open to editorial representatives and business members alike.

Wesleyan's ties to the media honorary were so strong that the university hosted the fourth annual Gamma Upsilon convention on September 26 and 27, 1952. Six schools from three states attended the newspaper, yearbook and literary magazine panel discussions and participated in a publications symposium, convention dinner, social hour and "record dance." IWU hosted the fraternity's eighth national convention on October 29, 1960 in much the same fashion.

Until the mid-1960s, Gamma Upsilon members were required to endure a strict initiation ritual and work on a major media project. As of the 1993-94 school year, the fraternity serves strictly as an honorary, recognizing students for outstanding work on *The Argus*, *Wesleyana* or WESN. Gamma Upsilon also honors two students each year for outstanding editing and managing of campus media.

The 1894-95 Argus *staff. Seated : Ruth Henry, local editor; Clarence E. Snyder, editor-in-chief and F. A. McCarthy, literary editor. Standing: Edson Hart, subscription agent; J. Riggs Orr, local editor;J.K.P. Hawkins, business manager and Irene Bassett, exchange editor.*

CHAPTER 11

A Week with the Boar—Life in the Office

Too, too true
re-printed from the October 8, 1940 *Argus*

"What have you done?" St. Peter asked,
"That I should admit you here?"
"I ran a paper," the editor said,
"At my college for one long year."
St. Peter pittingly shook his head
And gravely touched the bell.
"Come in, poor man, select a harp;
You've had your share of Hell!"

Blood, sweat, long hours, forgotten classwork, sick jokes and staff tension all lie beneath the weekly newsprint of *The Argus*. The newspaper office, located on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center, is the spot where personalities combine under an intense amount of pressure, and it would be a lie to say that every *Argus* staff has been tightly knit. Tempers ran high during the 1973 "St. John affair," when Student Senate elected an editor who had never worked on the newspaper, recalled Jim Robinson, one of four editors during that year. Another conflict between editorial board members in the late 1980s led to more than a few shouting matches—one of which escalated into a spitting incident and the resignation of several staff members, according to former photo editor Chet Price ('90).

Patricia Berry, the night attendant at Memorial Student Center's main desk (located on the first floor below *The Argus* office), has witnessed many *Argus* highlights and lowlights since assuming her duties in 1987. For security reasons, editors must check in with Berry when they work in the office past the Student Center's closing time, between midnight and 1 a.m.. Since there are few others in the building during her eight-hour shift, Berry has observed the staff enough to get a sense of the way things work. "If the editor's a strong leader and everyone gets along, you're going to have a good paper," she said. "If people's egos get the best of them, then there's going to be nothing but pain, anguish, snarl and suffering up in the office."

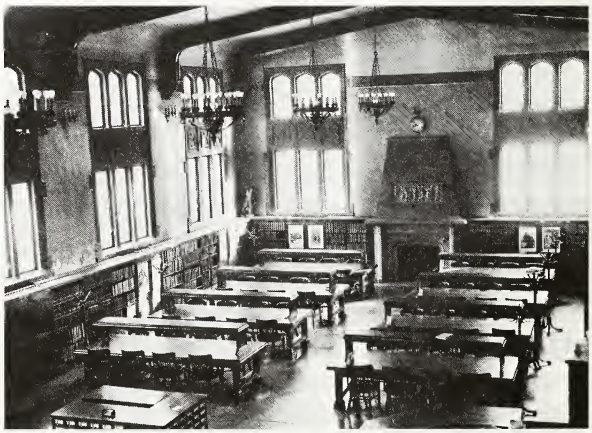
According to former editors, however, *The Argus* has created more friendships than adversarial relationships. Beth Mackey Stiffler, editor of the 1942-43

Argus, worked on the newspaper because "it was fun and there was a tremendous amount of camaraderie and friendship among the staff." Ruth Nordin Zervas, editor of the 1961-62 *Argus* added, "If you were willing to do it and were willing to stay in the office hour after hour, then you had a place in *The Argus*. For me it was my college family. The office was where I was comfortable and where I fit in."

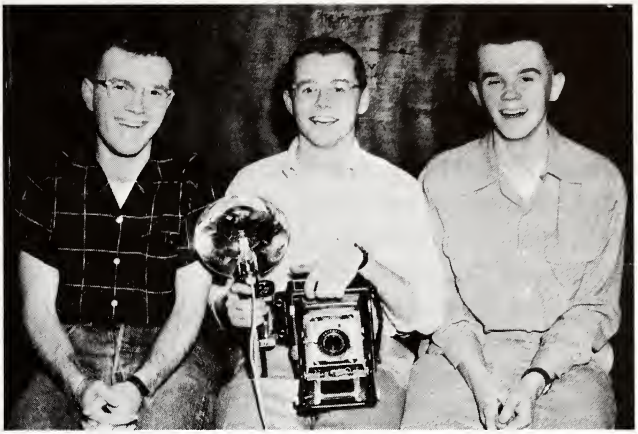
Old North Hall (1856-1966), where The Argus *had an early office on the second floor.*

For a few *Argus* staff members, *The Argus* literally was family. Eleanor Ann Browns Fennelly and Barbara Browns Mathis, 1945-46 and 1946-47 editors, respectively, were the only sister editors in *Argus* history. Their father, Ralph E. Browns, was a Wesleyan philosophy professor, so the pair grew up reading *The Argus*. They even married a pair of *Argus* staff writers. "We didn't have many men on the staff during the war years, but the ones we had were pretty good," Browns Mathis said. The Browns sisters also recall having staff meetings at their home because *The Argus* did not have a permanent office on campus.

Before *The Argus* moved into the Memorial Center in 1966, such makeshift meeting places were necessary because of the paper's crowded campus quarters. Until 1948, the newspaper office was located in a number of places, including a Hedding Hall classroom, the second floor of Old North Hall and the second floor of Buck Library. The April 21, 1948 issue reported that *The Argus* gained a small office in the basement of Buck Library, and Buck's basement remained *Argus* headquarters until 1953, when the newspaper moved to the second



The main reading room of Buck library (1949). At various times, The Argus *had basement and second-floor offices in Buck.*



"Say Cheese!" Argus *photographers George Ongemach, Bill Breitweiser and Jorgen Jacobsen (1954).*

floor of the library. A small room in the barracks housed *The Argus* in the late 1950s, before it moved to the basement of newly completed Holmes Hall in 1960. A November 11, 1966 caption attached to a photo of the Memorial Center office read, "WE HAVE ARRIVED! Arising out of the steamy depths of Holmes Hall, the ARGUS has ascended to the spacious upper story of the Memorial Center."

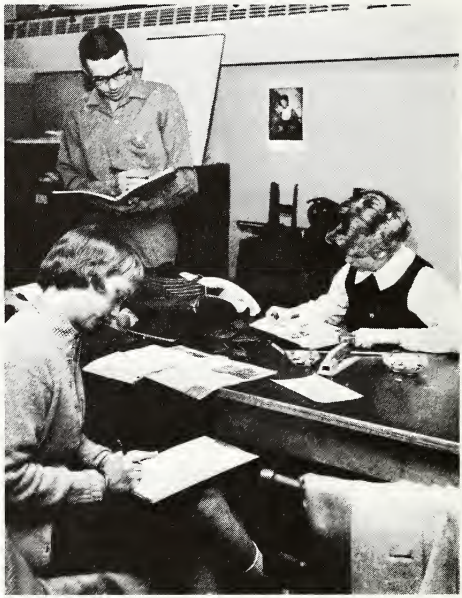
Serious *Argus* work takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday nights when the majority of the staff lays out pages, writes headlines and edits copy. Described as "experiments in insomnia" by 1972-74 editor Dave Gathman, Wednesday worknights often ran into Thursday mornings. As for academic pursuits, editor Bob Berg put it another way: "You could kiss off Wednesday nights." Former editors could probably recite the following cycle (with a few variations) in their dreams . . . or nightmares:

• Monday: An editorial board meeting is held at *The Argus* office to assign stories and photographs for next week's issue and generate editorial topics. Copy for this week's issue also is supposed to be due on Monday nights, but will likely come in sometime on Tuesday. Before electric typewriters and computers, students would often come into the office and type stories on gray, manual Royal typewriters, which Gathman said "could stand up to an earthquake, but it took just about that much force to work their stiff keys."

• Tuesday: The copy editors and editorial board meet right after dinner to check the stories that hopefully have been turned in and to write the editorials, news briefs and weekly calendar. Photograph cover sheets also are prepared. The business staff must finalize its deals and have advertisements ready to go to the printer so they can be laid out tomorrow. The editor (or other staff member with a car) drives the copy down to the printer's office after the work is done.

• Wednesday (into Thursday): The bell tolls for *The Argus* staff at 3 p.m. as copy editors and editorial board members arrive to check the printer's galley proofs, which present stories in column inches as they will look in the newspaper. Graphic artists take a look at the editorials and columns and decide which topic is artistically suitable for the "Opinion" page. While the staff edits copy, the editor and associate or managing editor decide how many pages the issue

will be and where advertisements will be placed. After determining which photos to use, section editors receive dummy pages for photo and copy layout. Last, but not least, come the agonizing headlines (written on the dummy sheets above each story) and the cutlines (which, below each photo, identify people and describe the action). So that no discrepancies arise, each section editor types the headlines and cutlines on a separate sheet of paper—better known as the headsheet. Finally, the headsheets, photographs and graphics are attached to each dummy page. All dummy pages along with the galley proofs are placed in an envelope and the editor, once again, drives the newspaper down to the printer's office late Wednesday or early Thursday morning and "puts the issue to bed."



The 1960-61 Argus staff, hard at work in their Holmes Hall basement office. Pictured: Ken Boyd, Mary Lou McClellan Olin and Phylis Sanders Salak.

While the newspaper may be resting, editors are often too high on adrenaline to put themselves to bed. Gathman remembers late-night trips after dropping the paper off at Gummerman Printing Office. "Here, on a deserted, shabby downtown street, someone would dash out of the car and slip the envelope surreptitiously through a slot in the door, cocking a wary eye for muggers or drunks from the tavern across the street," he said. "Often the night would end with a run to 'Brandtville,' formally known as Bob Johnson's Restaurant. Its exterior looked like Las Vegas East, with neon lights up the wazoo."

After late-night trips and "early bird specials" the editors drag themselves back to campus. "I was so busy with *The Argus* and schoolwork that I caught myself going to bed when the other guys were getting up," recalled 1953-54 editor Art Schmittler.

• Thursday: After morning classes and possibly a few hours sleep, the editor, associate or managing editor and chief copy editor (along with anyone else who wants to join them) take a final trip to the printer's office to read final proofs of *The Argus*. Even after an additional hour of reading each story, cutline, headline and jump, mistakes still make their way into the final issues that are printed and distributed Thursday night and Friday morning. The staff returns to hear students and faculty complain about the newspaper Friday, Saturday and Sunday—and the cycle repeats itself on Monday.

When Gummerman Printing Office closed in the summer of 1993, *The Argus*

The Argus
Illinois Wesleyan University

Students unload concerns over May term proposal

By Kerry Podzamsky
News Editor

Emotion prevailed when Illinois Wesleyan students voiced their concerns about the Council on University Programs and Policies' (CUPP) course reduction proposal.

President Minor Myers, jr., did not attend the meeting on Nov. 14 in the Main Lounge, but he later hailed the plan as a "strong move forward and one shaped by student input on the planning committee."

However, most of the 60 to 70 students who attended the debate, which was sponsored by Student Senate, disagreed with Myers.

Janet McNew, provost and dean of faculty, Mona Gardner, director of business and economics, Donna Herweg, director of nursing, Michael Seeborg, chairperson of economics and Larry Stout, chairperson of CUPP represented the faculty.

McNew began by highlighting the proposed changes. Semesters will be lengthened by one week. Professors' work loads will be reduced from seven courses a year to six. Short term would be moved from January to May and would be optional.

The faculty will vote on the proposal at the Dec. 6 faculty meeting.

Short Term

Students expressed fears that those on financial aid will not be able to take courses during May term to start raising monies for fall semester.

Stout argued that students needing extra money would opt out of a January term for the same reason.

The committee stood firm on the idea of an optional short term as opposed to a mandatory one.

"With a mandatory short term, what often happens is that classes that don't belong in a short term get jammed in," McNew said.

One student then argued that if this is the case, "the faculty has failed to make classes that will fit [the] short term [format]."

Students also worried that only internships and travel courses will be offered in the new May term.

The committee assured that any [illegible] would be available in the proposed May term.

Most pointed out that in using short term in May will greatly facilitate sequential semester courses because of the shorter break between semesters.

Course Reduction

Graduation requirements will be reduced from 36 course units to 32 by cutting general education requirements from 17 to 12.

Students with double majors feared that these moves will make it impossible

see MAY TERM p. 5

In exploratory study of the May term proposal on p. 2

Feminist discussion stresses equal dignity and rights for women

By David Yerkes
Staff Writer

More that 125 people joined four female IWU professors in the Davidson Room on Tuesday, Nov. 9 to discuss their ideas on and experiences with feminism.

"The purpose of the program was to discuss the many faces of feminism and to defuse some of the negative stereotypes," co-sponsor Michele Herman said.

Herman and Leann Swain, both resident assistants in Pfeiffer Hall, organized the event.

Swain helped organize the talk, she said, because "I really do not know what feminism consists of . . . I'm here to find out what it really is."

Some of the signs promoting the event were torn down, Herman said, even though this is used hanger to deflect apprehensions students might have about such a discussion. One sign read, "Feminism the other f-word?"

How did the attendees define feminism? The four professors—Georgeanne Rundblad, April Schultz, Ann Bakos and Alison Sainsbury—each related anecdotes and observations about their personal experiences in trying to be self-determined women.

Rundblad, for example, talked about questioning students in her "Sex and Gender" class as to whether or not they considered themselves feminists (only a few said that they did).

Sainsbury told how she and her husband (fellow English professor Wes Chapman) divide household tasks equally.

What the talk boiled down to was that feminism involves striving for dignity and rights for women comparable to those of men.

For Herman, the most important observation to come out of the discussion was that women have the right not to have to choose between "public and private" spheres.

This means that women—or

see FEMINISM p. 10

Georgeanne Rundblad and April Schultz enjoy a humorous moment at the discussion on feminism on Tuesday, Nov. 9. An estimated 125 people attended the event, which lasted two and a half hours.

Westerberg breaks our dyslexic hearts

By Jules Belinski
Staff Writer

First, for a week, he was WESN's "mystery performer." Then, 150 Illinois Wesleyan students bought tickets to see his show.

Now all we can say is that he would have played the Main Lounge last Wednesday.

Paul Westerberg, formerly the lead singer of the Minneapolis-based Replacements, was injured during one of his concerts two weeks ago.

This was Westerberg's first solo tour featuring his album 14 Canteen Songs.

"Several of his dates were cancelled for this leg of the tour," said Amrita Shalton, WESN's marketing director.

"Westerberg's promoter told Shalton he was thinking about rescheduling for February or March, but she was doubtful that Westerberg would be performing here in the spring.

"We have a limited number of open dates in the Main Lounge," Shalton said. "Right

see WESTERBERG p. 10

The 1993-94 Argus: *New size, new technology new printer. Each issue is computer-generated.*

production cycle remained the same, but production procedures changed significantly. Luckily, a deal was worked out with *The Pantagraph* so that *The Argus* could be printed locally, but *The Pantagraph* does not take an active role in the newspaper's production, as did Bernie and Kurt Gummerman.

In terms of technology, *The Argus* has come a long way in the past five years. Before computers, Kristin Frazier ('91), editor during 1989-90, remembered having only "one typewriter that worked well." Writers now turn in stories on computer disks in a word processing program so they can be edited. Next, the stories are transferred from the word processing program to a layout program, and section editors design the newspaper on a computer screen. A gigantic laser printer magically churns out pages as they will look in print. *The Pantagraph* simply takes a picture of the newspaper and runs off 2,000 issues in just a few hours.

It is difficult to get a feel for how many students wrote and edited copy for *The Argus* during its 100 years, since bylines for all stories did not consistently appear until 1983. Not only did the byline offer incentive for writers to see their name in print, but it also held them accountable for any faulty information. Editorial boards have averaged six to 11 members over the history of *The Argus.*

The 1993-94 version of team *Argus* still kicks into high gear on Wednesday nights. But the first thing a person notices upon entering the office is not the 20 or so people editing copy, rewriting or laying out the newspaper, nor the ominous sight of four layout "super computers" which occupy the west wall—or even the oak table rescued from the old Buck Weems Journalism Room (now a foreign language classroom in Buck Library). The first sight one sees upon entering *The Argus* office is the head of a wild boar mounted above an old, no-longer-functional marble fireplace.

If *The Argus* is all-seeing, then the boar, adorned with an editor's leather whip, John Lennon sunglasses and a number of other trinkets inside its mouth, is all-knowing. Over the years, the boar has come to symbolize the late-night gid-

diness and "slap happy" attitude of *Argus* staffers. If you upset the boar, it will make your Wednesday night a living hell; if you become one with the boar, it may guide you to as many as—but seldom more than—five hours of sleep. Once 9 p.m. rolls around, one might even see staffers talking to the boar, asking for inspiration on a lead, headline or an interview.

Members of today's staff cite Christopher Baron, *Argus* columnist and assistant editor, as the member who has developed the closest relationship with the boar. It is Baron who, around nine o'clock every Wednesday, flips a switch to turn on the barber-shop style lights surrounding the boar for "*The Argus* . . . after hours," the period in which the boar—like the head in William Golding's novel, *Lord of the Flies*—yields its secrets of wisdom and human life.

Baron has become so attuned to the boar that he even declared September 1993 National Boar Month in conjunction with *The Argus* centennial. Holidays included the "Last Boar Supper" (pork chops, of course), "Hug-a-Boar Day," "Supply a Boar with a Condom Day," "Boar Suffrage Day" and "Feed Your Favorite Senate Executive Officer to the Boar Day." In all of Baron's boar-dom, not even he knows how it appeared in the office in the early 1980s. According to a 1984 April Fool's issue, a few staffs called the boar "Beth," but, like many Wesleyan traditions, the name has not carried on.

In addition to worshipping the boar, Baron reads all the newspaper's copy, assists with all phases of production (especially computer layout), makes all final copy editing changes before the paper goes to press and assists section editors in training staff writers.

Despite the office's new high-tech look, business manager Ross "the boss" Minion ('94) and head of sales Tish Mackey ('95) still run the business department the old fashioned way, convincing local merchants to buy advertisements and "trading out" advertisements for free food on Wednesday production nights. (Minion said he's working on tuition waivers, but for now pizza will have to suffice.) In addition to his duties as a salesman, Minion also was instrumental in working with Student Senate to get computer equipment for the office, even before the staff knew that Gummerman's was closing. Treasurer Culley Summers ('94) worked over the 1993 summer in order to computerize all client records, which gives the business staff immediate access to totals and outstanding accounts.

The business staff, which in 1993-94 occupies the traditional editor's cubicle, uses computers to design advertisements under the guidance of production manager Guy Suesuntisook ('94). Suesuntisook's knowledge and ability to put up with computer-phobic section editors has enabled *The Argus* to make the rocky technological transition as smooth as possible. Along with graphics editor Jame Standefer ('94), Suesuntisook designed the front-and back-page centennial nameplates. Standefer creates illustrations and infographs—both computer and hand-generated—which complement stories and make for interesting layouts.

Photography editor Judy Hoffmiller ('96) and Student Senate photo coordinator Josh Birk ('96) provide news and sports photos. Not only have they found

time to find and train a few quality "snap artists," but they also take many pictures themselves, focusing on the basics of effective photojournalism (action and emotion, bigger is better, implied narrative and tight cropping to produce a dramatic photo).

With the new computer system giving the staff more to panic about, one favorite stress abatement technique is to add a caption underneath a photo of Dr. James Plath, *Argus* faculty advisor since 1988. Under the banner "What's upsetting this man?" are some 53 (and counting) captions, among them: "Wesleyan teacher salaries," "he just found out there's no seat on his bicycle," "that necktie" and "he just finished critiquing this week's *Argus*."

Plath has developed quite a relationship with *The Argus* staff. Like his predecessor, he critiques the newspaper only after it is published. Every Tuesday or Wednesday, by invitation of the editors, he talks for an hour or two about each issue's strengths and weaknesses, often lingering to offer advice on stories in progress. Most of the training for Wesleyan journalists comes through the three-course journalism sequence he teaches through the English department and through the internships that he supervises.

A photo with the boar: the 1993-94 Argus staff. Back row: Christopher Baron, Chris Fusco, Guy Suesuntisook, Jame Standefer, Dave Brown. Middle row: Julieanna Lambert, Jennifer Barrell, Deborah Obalil, Ross Minion. Front Row: Kerry Podzamsky, Judy Hoffmiller, Maisa Taha. Missing: Kevyn Kusinski, Tish Mackey, Culley Summers, Ed Schweitzer, Jenny Lietzau

When the staff gets in a rut, Plath is always there with words of encouragement. "Working for the *Argus* is tough," he agrees. "The average Argusite's grade point average drops one-half to a full point because of the hours and effort expended. But when it comes time to enter the work world, being a part of one of the top non-daily college newspapers in the state can carry more weight than any single course."

Though *The Argus,* itself, often weighs students down, many former editors seem to have edited their memories so that they're all positive. Since the 1960s, burnout has been common, with many editors ready to call it quits long before spring staff changeover. One editor in the mid-1980s resigned after his first fall issue, citing stress, while another 1992 editor ended up in the hospital with walking pneumonia.

Jennifer Barrell, 1993-94 editor, is one of seven people to edit *The Argus* for two years. Barrell's responsibilities include supervising the content and lay out of each issue and working with the assistant and news editors to determine the ranking of stories. She is solely responsible for the opinion pages and partially responsible for any libel suit the newspaper might encounter. (Fortunately, and perhaps miraculously, that has not happened in the past century.) A member of the staff since her freshman year, she also serves as president of Gamma Upsilon.

News editors Kerry Podzamsky ('96) and Kevyn Kusinski ('97) are responsible for generating and assigning stories of depth, quality and variety, laying out the front page and covering "hard" campus news—or the lack thereof. In 1993, they have had quite a task before them in covering proposed changes to Wesleyan's academic calendar and the 7 to 6 faculty course load reduction plan. Naturally, the news desk is located closest to the new computer system, so that Kusinski and Podzamsky can type in Illinois Wesleyan's news as it happens.

Features editor Dave Brown ('96) and Arts and Entertainment editor, Deborah Obalil sift through press releases, story assignments and junk mail to create lively center sections. The A & E section features movie, music and book reviews, in addition to covering campus production and artistic events. As features editor, Brown keeps up with campus groups and events, while searching for interesting story ideas—not always easy on a small, private campus. What's more, he also has to keep after writers to make sure that stories are accurate and lively.

The sports desk, which sits on the south wall next to the editor's cubicle, is inhabited by Chris Fusco. Fusco sees to it that all of Wesleyan's 16 varsity sports and four club sports are covered, in addition to writing an occasional sports column. He tries to ensure an adequate mix of not only game stories but also team previews and sports features.

With all the responsibilities given the staff, it's traditional that die-hard editors have spent more than 30 hours per week in the newspaper office. Because of that, the office has become their home away from home. Chaotic stacks of paper, old news releases, pens, glue sticks and photographs clutter the desks.

Near the front door, a sofa provides the perfect spot for editors to "crash," while the coffee machine next to it provides caffeine to awaken them for all-night layout sessions. The staff is also able to listen to music on two stereos, and a refrigerator keeps late night snacks fresh. The walls are decorated with artsy posters. ACP and ICPA awards and a single-copy retirement "extra" declaring "Hand out Harv super."

Historically, long hours spent in the office have not always been spent working, but procrastinating. Most *Argus* staffs have found more conventional ways to kill time. Since the 1930s, editors have traveled to Bloomington's (now defunct) "red light" district, climbed on the roof of the Memorial Center (sometimes, to howl at the moon), lit fires in the fireplace, played board games, smoked cigarettes, hosted "*Argus* Dance Parties," climbed out the office windows or played touch football. Late-night discussions on anything from religion to post-graduation plans were popular diversions. As 1962-63 editor Phylis Sanders Salak explained, "We were a strong unit, spending long hours debating life and times."

Argus editors of 1993-94 have experienced many of the same "editor bonding moments" as their predecessors. Hysteria has its way of forming patterns. Although not the entertainment editor, Brown, is by far the staff's most entertaining member. His impersonations of Hollywood celebrities and Wesleyan faculty members gets graphics editor Standefer going. Then, just as the two start discussing strange lines from movies nobody has heard of, production manager Suesuntisook (we prefer to call him Guy), comes rollerblading through the office, using people and desks as an obstacle course. The only editors not distracted at this point are those who are gossiping about campus happenings or discussing some staff member's love life while quasi-working.

This mayhem temporarily ends when Student Senate treasurer Josh Yount appears at the door looking for Minion and the revised 1993-94 newspaper budget. Yount has yet to find either on the first try; when he does locate Minion, the *Argus* business manager assures him that he'll have everything prepared by the following week. Senate media commissioner Alison Sturdevant ('94) periodically wanders into the office to make sure the two are not at each other's throats.

Other interruptions are caused by phone calls from the *Argus*' "extended family." Editors spend so much time in the office that they give their loved ones the newspaper phone number in lieu of their room numbers. For example, everyone on the staff is familiar with editor Barrell's University of Illinois boyfriend and Fusco's mother—both frequent callers to *The Argus*.

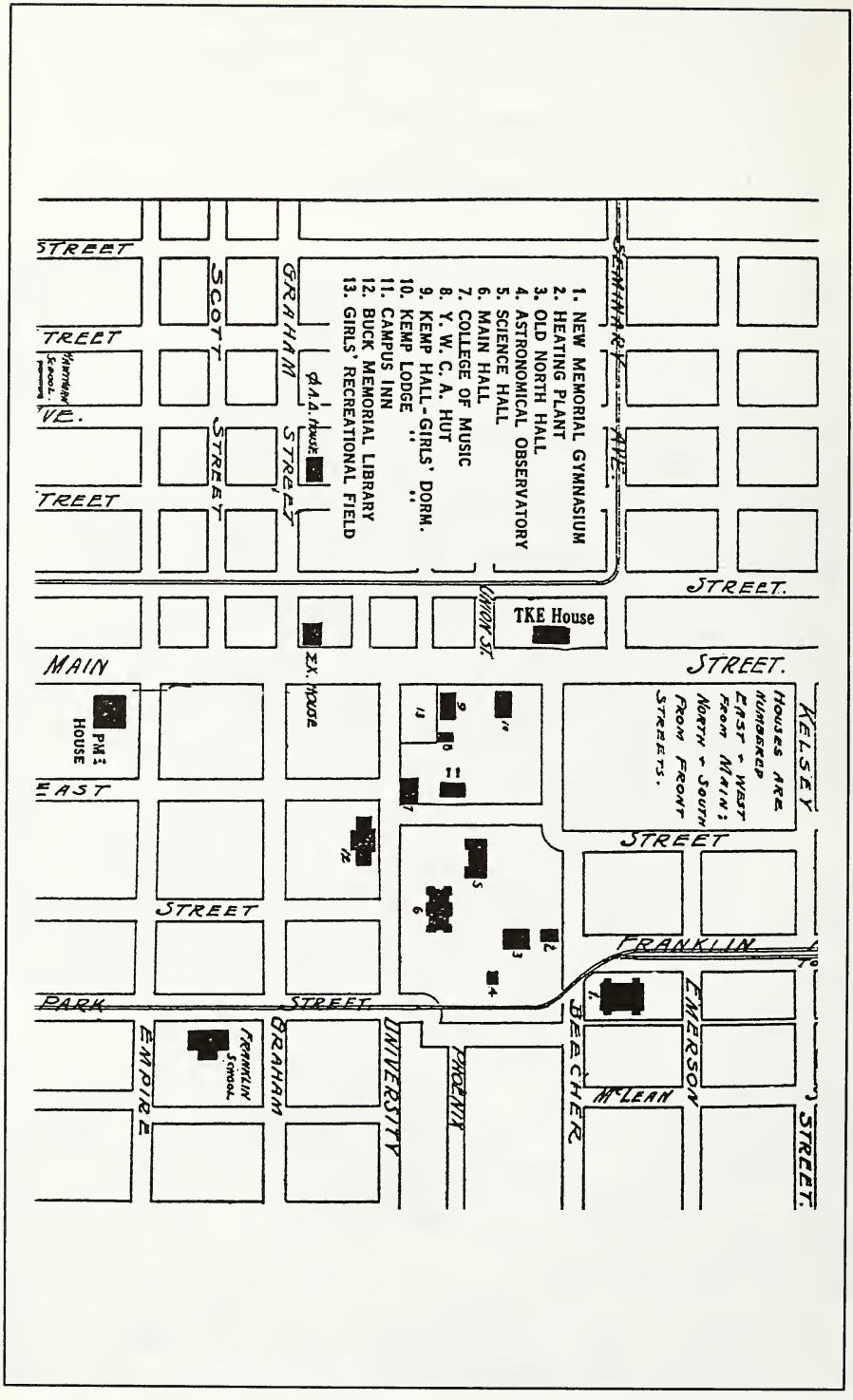
Concerned parents are not that unusual. Son of former IWU President Merrill J. Holmes, Bob Holmes ('48) remembers his mother's devotion to the newspaper. "After working until two or three o'clock on Tuesday night, I would come home and drop off the paper at my mother's house for her to proofread" the next day, he said. Though her changes came after the fact, the staff learned a great deal from Florence Holmes' corrections, according to her son.

Although the editors, writing styles, office locations, advisers and production procedures of the newspaper have changed since 1894, the spirit guiding *The Argus* and its staff have persevered. Today, that spirit has been captured in the boar, but for other editors, it is captured in the memories that live on after commencement—the all-nighters, friendships and the feeling of a job well done. That spirit bonds *Argus* staffs of past, present and future. But 1952-53 editor Jim Ridenour described the staff's relationship best: "We were just happy to get an issue out every week."

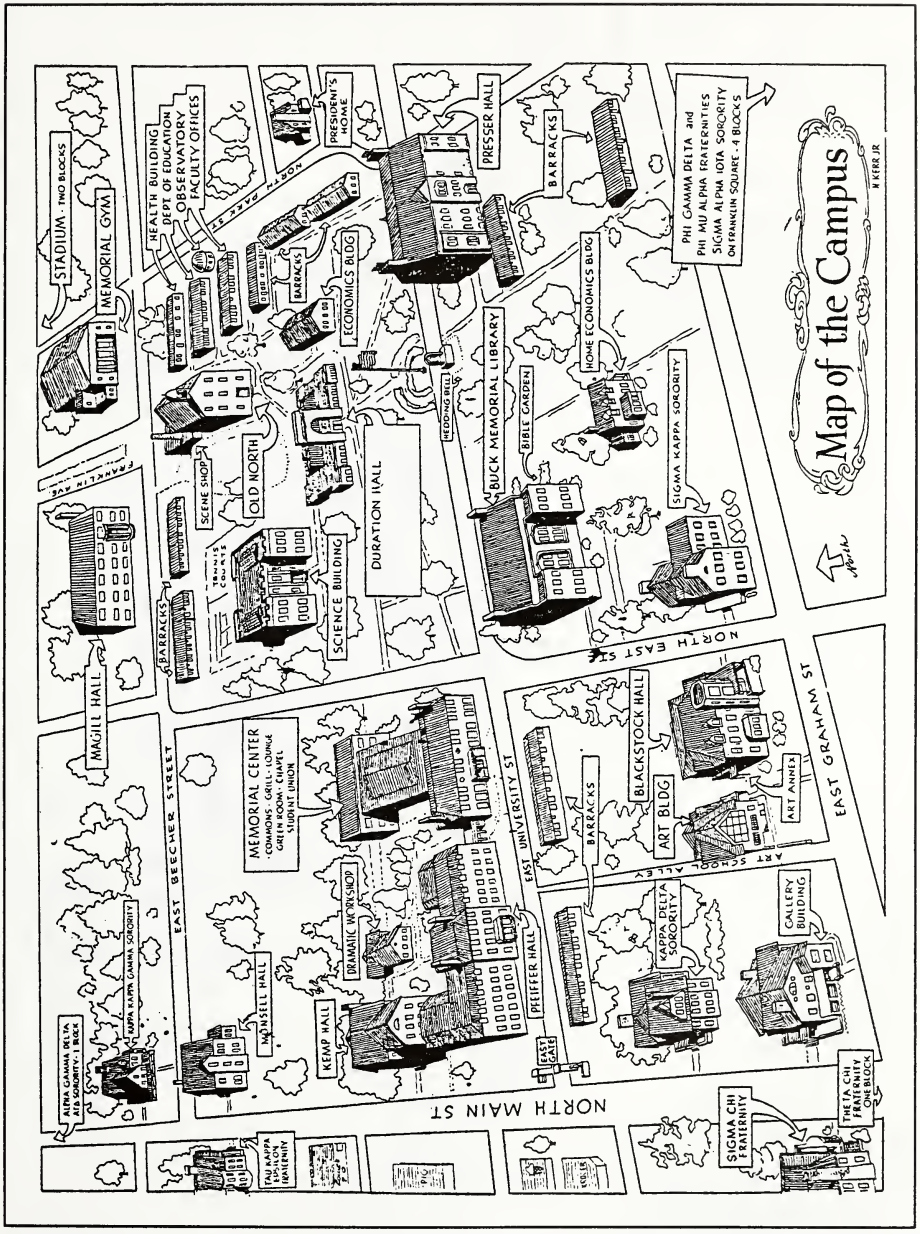
APPENDIX A

Campus Maps

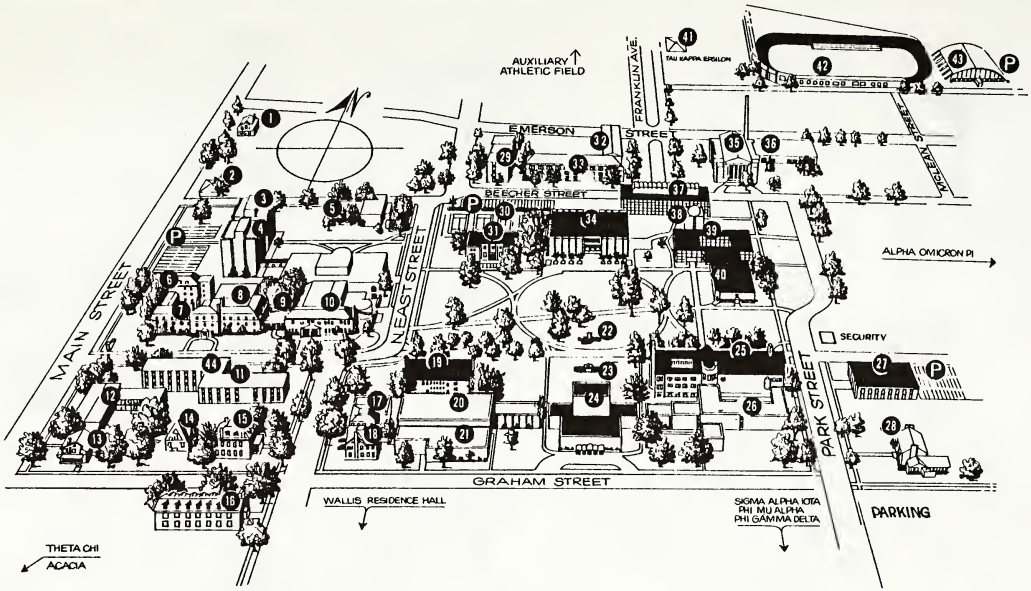
Campus aerial photograph (1940).



Campus map (1925).

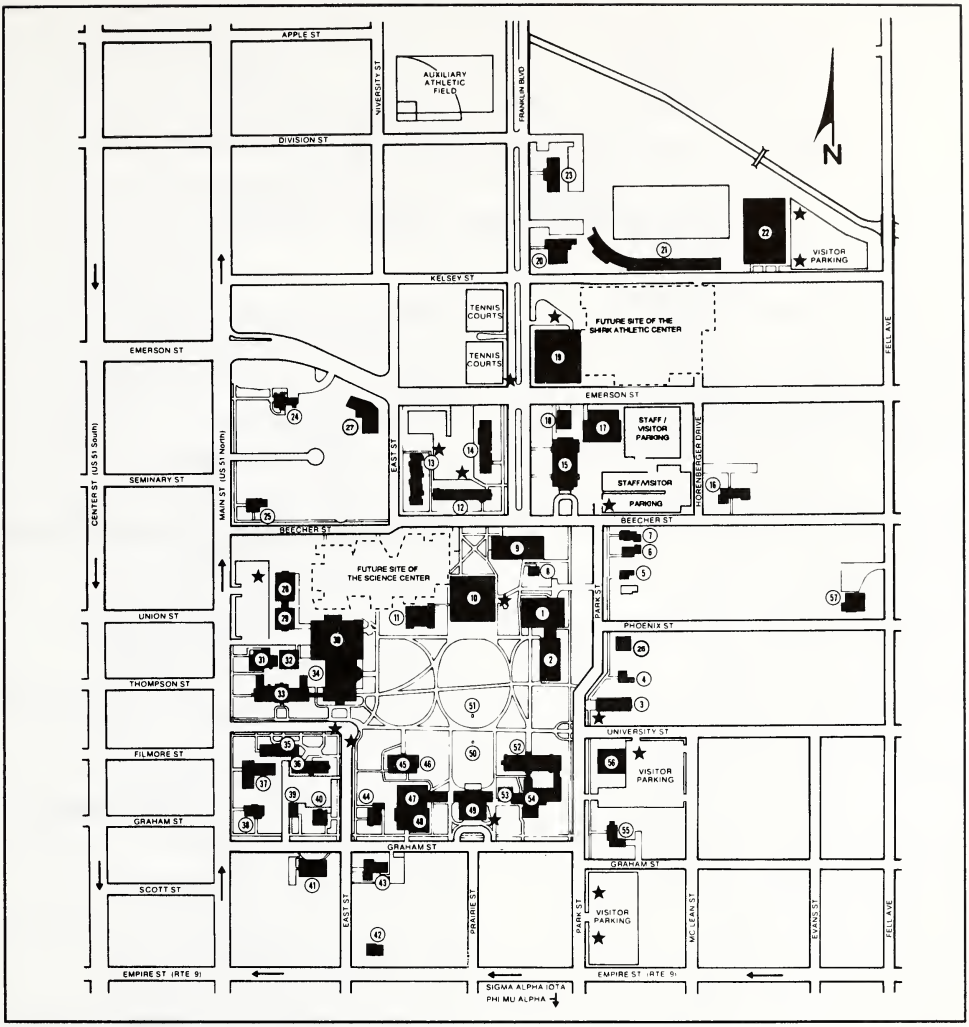


Campus map (1952).



1. Alpha Gamma Delta
2. Sigma Pi
3. Munsell Hall
4. Ferguson Hall
5. Sigma Chi
6. Kemp Hall
7. Pfeiffer Hall
8. Velma Arnold Bookstore
9. Arnold Cabana
10. Memorial Student Center
11. Gulick Hall
12. Kappa Delta
13. English Department
14. Art Studios
15. Blackstock Hall
16. Kappa Kappa Gamma
17. Afro-American Culture Center
18. Sigma Kappa
19. Buck Memorial Library
20. Art Building
21. Merwin Art Gallery
22. John Wesley Powell Monument
23. Hedding Bell
24. McPherson Hall (School of Drama)
25. Presser Hall (School of Music)
26. Music Building
27. United Methodist Conference Center
28. President's Home
29. Dodds Hall
30. Tennis Courts
31. Stevenson Hall (School of Nursing)
32. Dolan Hall
33. Magill Hall
34. University Library
35. Memorial Gymnasium
36. Physical Plant Office
37. Earl Edward Sherff Hall of Science
38. Evans Observatory
39. Merrill J. Holmes Administration Building
40. Shaw Hall
41. Tau Kappa Epsilon
42. Wilder Field (Wesleyan Stadium)
43. Fred Young Fieldhouse
44. Career Education Center
P. Parking

Campus map (1979).



Campus map (1994).

1. Merrill J. Holmes Administration Building
2. Shaw Hall
3. Evelyn Chapel
4. Park Place, Business and Economics Division
5. Multi-Cultural Center
6. Wilder Hall
7. DeMotte Hall
8. Mark Evans Observatory
9. Sherff Hall of Science
10. Sheean Library
11. Stevenson Hall (School of Nursing)
12. Magill Hall
13. Dodds Hall
14. Dolan Hall
15. Memorial Gymnasium
16. Theta Chi
17. Physical Plant Office
18. Heating Plant
19. Fort Natatorium
20. Phi Gamma Delta
21. Wilder Field (Wesleyan Stadium)
22. Fred Young Fieldhouse
23. Tau Kappa Epsilon
24. Alpha Gamma Delta
25. Adams Hall (ACACIA) Academic Skills Center
26. Philosophy Department
28. Munsell Hall
29. Ferguson Hall
30. Memorial Student Center
31. Kemp Hall (International House)
32. Velma Arnold Bookstore
33. Pfeiffer Hall
34. Arnold Cabana
35. Career Center
36. Gulick Hall
37. Kappa Delta
38. English Building
39. Security
40. Blackstock Hall
41. Kappa Kappa Gamma
42. Wallis Hall
43. Sigma Kappa
44. Beadles Hall (Sigma Pi)
45. Buck Memorial Library – Computer Center
46. Bible Garden
47. Art Building
48. Merwin Art Gallery
49. McPherson Hall (School of Theatre Arts)
50. Hedding Bell
51. John Wesley Powell Monument
52. Presser Hall (School of Music) Westbrook Auditorium
53. Lab Theatre
54. Music Building
55. President's Home
56. United Methodist Central Illinois Conference Office
57. Alpha Omicron Pi

APPENDIX B

Argus Editors, 1894-1994

1894-95 Clarence Snyder
1895-96 Albert L. Wood
1896-97 Leslie L. Baker
1897-98 Maggie L. Smith
1898-99 Jesse Dancey
J. Verne Swartz
1899-1900 Alice M. Northrup
1900-01 Bessye Welty
1901-02 Helen M. Dean
1902-03 Charles J. Robinson
1903-04 Clyde Leighty
1904-05 Irvin Livingston
1905-06 Harry McPherson
1906-07 Albert B. Wright
Charles H. Wright
1907-08 Charles A. Nyman
1908-09 Frederic B. Grant
1909-10 Henry Burd
1910-11 Arthur Peine
1911-12 M. May James
1912-13 Wayne Calhoun
1913-14 Edwin H. Cooke
Thomas Carter
1914-15 Paul Theobald
1915-16 Mary Hairgrove
Harold Plummer
1916-17 Andrew Honn
1917-18 Marion Austin
1918-19 Carol J. James
1919-20 Elizabeth Wood
1920-21 Harry Evans
1921-22 Sarah Taylor
1922-23 Harry Evans
1923-24 Ruth Henline
1924-25 Gertrude Barlow
1925-26 Albert Williamson
1926-27 Austin Truitt
1927-28 Thornton McClaughry
1928-29 Palmer Boyle
Margaret Noble
1929-30 Edward Hahn
1930-31 Madeleine Anderson Cutright
1931-32 C. Virgil Martin
1932-33 Mary Ellen Crum
Midred Fitzhenry Jones
1933-34 John Fremont Melby
1934-35 Harlan Stanger
1935-36 Everett Melby
1936-37 Ralph E. McCoy
1937-38 Charlotte Fitzhenry Robling
1938-39 Keith Anderson
1939-40 Mary Fran Payne
1940-41 Harold McMillan
1941-42 Dale Mehrhoff
1942-43 Beth Mackey Stiffler
1943-44 Margot Smith Lucas
1944-45 Rose Schlosser Benson
1945-46 Elanor Ann Browns
1946-47 Barbara Browns Mathis
1947-48 Bob Holmes
1948-49 Alice Stanbery
1949-50 Bob Gorman
1950-51 George Allison
1951-52 Lennie Genung
1952-53 Jim Ridenour
1953-54 Art Schmittler
1954-55 Dave Gilbert
1955-56 John Copeland
1956-57 Bob Page
1957-58 Dennis Stark

1958-59 Dennis Stark
1959-60 Larry Uffelman
1960-61 Dori Andresen Danielson
1961-62 Ruth Nordin Zervas
1962-63 Phylis Sanders Salak
1963-64 Dave Olson
1964-65 Bob Berg
1965-66 Bill Joyce
1966-67 Elizabeth Glosser Dorsey
1967-68 James Dorsey
1968-69 Bob Sweet
1969-70 Linda Henderson Fischer
1970-71 Tom Wetzel
1971-72 Tom Wetzel
1972-73 Jim Hale, Dave Gathman
1973-74 Thomas St. John
(Judy Bubert)*
Dave Gathman
Jim Robinson
1974-75 (Paul Breen)
Debbie Burt Frazier
Gail Campbell
1975-76 Jim Roberts
1976-77 Liz Meldahl Miller
Marla Donato
1977-78 (Laura Grafe)
(Ann Orth Nussbaum)
Thomas J. Richards
1978-79 Ann Orth Nussbaum
Don Thompson
1979-80 Don Thompson
1980-81 Tracy Higgins Fox
1981-82 George Fox
Chris Hewitt
1982-83 Chris Hewitt
1983-84 Lori Linehan Swan
1984-85 Rick Linneman
1985-86 Kathy Greenholdt
Brett Johnson
1986-87 Brett Johnson
1987-88 J. Arlen Bowyer
1988-89 Kris Frazier
1989-90 (Bob Hessling)
Jennifer Moskowitz
J. Arlen Bowyer
1990-91 Kristina Geister
1991-92 Darlene Ostrowski
1992-93 Jennifer Barrell
1993-94 Troy Clark
Jennifer Barrell
(Chris Fusco)

* Editors whose names are in parentheses acted as editor-in-chief for less than three issues.

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